

SOCCER

Vol 11 No 458 — MONDAY, DECEMBER 10, 1990

• POSTAL ADDRESS: PO Box 406, BROADWAY, NSW 2007
 • TELEPHONE: (02) 660 2033 • FAX: (02) 692 0649 • TELEX: AA22141

AUSTRALIA
WIDE
COVER

WEEKLY

Registered by Australia Post — Publication No NBQ5726

BRADLEY TRUMPS

REPORTS

ON ALL
THE
NSL
GAMES
Pages 2/6

All the
weekend
reports
in
depth

BY KEITH GILMOUR

CHAIRMAN of the new board of commissioners of the Australian Soccer Federation, John Constantine, laid out the agenda immediately following his election on Saturday.

"The priority tasks are to obtain the chief executive, decide the criteria for 1991/92 members of the National Soccer League, and arrange for the personnel to activate the new working committees," he said.

There will be no shortage of matters to be put to rights by the commissioners

— a compact body which replaces the former unwieldy 17-man executive.

Securing more suitable matches for the code's flagship, the Socceroos, is



JOHN CONSTANTINE
one case in point.
Another will be

the huge task of providing the strong, confident base from which the yet to be appointed promotions and media officer can operate successfully.

More sponsorship from major Australian companies, to complement the excellent deal with the Victorian Health Foundation and its associates, is required.

The NSL Cup —

or back to the former Australia Cup — competed for by



JOHN DIMTSIS

leading State League clubs as well from across the states, and adequately sponsored, is a necessity.

Mr Constantine was "extremely gratified" by the way in which the reforms contained in the Bradley Report were enacted unanimously.

There may be some complaints that the commissioners are short on

newcomers (Dr Bradley excepted) but the experience is there.

Quiet-mannered John Dimtsis was a popular choice as Constantine's



SAM PAPASAVAS

deputy.

Apart from earlier club experience, the bank manager turned financier has

JOEYS' INTERNATIONAL WINS IN CHILE



This outstanding picture shows the Australian Under 17 Joeys after their 3-2 victory over Chile in Santiago in front of 40,000 spectators. The team won the second international 2-0. See pages 9 and 12 for detailed reports. Their next step is from January 13 in Napier, New Zealand where they vie for a place in the FIFA U17 Championship in Ecuador from August 16/September 1 1991.

PREVIEW
of
NSL
ROUND 11
NEXT
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NSL
CUP
SPECIAL
See
Page 13

served well as ASF treasurer and Victorian Soccer Federation chairman.

Sam Papasavas and Tony Labbozetta will certainly have a special input from the NSL scene.

South Australia's Basil Scarsella defeated Wollongong City official John Vlietstra to gain his position, whilst NSW Amateur Soccer Federation president John Hedison withdrew from the ballot.

The post of chief executive should draw some quality applicants.

The appointee will also have a place

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AUSTRALIAN

SOCCER

WEEKLY

ON SALE

CITY:
MONDAYS
COUNTRY:
TUESDAYS

NOW AVAILABLE MELBOURNE TUESDAY

Preston favoured for win

Thriller certain at Melita Stadium

BY ALISTAIR RUSSELL

SATURDAY evening's Sydney clash should provide a tantalising opener to Round 11, when title-chasers Melbourne Croatia pay Parramatta Melita a visit.

The Eagles, who came within a whisker of downing Marconi on Saturday, will look to improve their poor home record, which has yielded just two points to date.

Melbourne Croatia, who have not won in their last three away from home, should still begin favourites despite conceding a massive 13 goals away from their home patch.

With the best attacking record in the league, the visitors will give the Eagles a run for their money.

Roberto Viera, Melita's caretaker coach, has done a splendid job in Raul Blanco's absence, with the club qualifying for the semi-finals of the Cup, and slowly climbing the league ladder.

The strikeforce of

Marshall Soper and Geoff Gunning have found a new lease of life, ably topped off by the talents of their leading scorer, Greg Brown.

Melbourne Croatia, desperate to keep in touch with Marconi, should win, but not without an almighty battle.

Marconi, with one of the worst away records in the competition, travel to Hindmarsh Stadium on Sunday to meet Adelaide City in the Italian Derby.

City, who remain unbeaten at home, is likely to be without glamour boy Ernie Tapai for the remainder of the season, after the Socceroo midfielder underwent knee surgery last week.

At Hindmarsh, Adelaide have struggled to find the net, while the Fairfielders have cracked in 11 goals in their last four outings.

Star midfielder Ian Gray made a welcome return in the win over Melita on Saturday,



Robbie Wheatley was on the receiving end of some overly "strong" tactics from Melita's Marshall Soper last Sunday, but he will play in Sunday's match in Adelaide.

failed to score for two months away from Connor Reserve, and Georgie, despite possessing the leakiest defence in the league, have allowed only two goals in their last three matches at home.

Sunshine, after a bad start to this campaign, have gone unbeaten in their last three home games, and should take at least a point from their more highly ranked opposition.

Sydney Croatia and Wollongong City, vying for a place in the top five, do battle at the Croatian Sports Centre this weekend.

Since coach Tony Vrzina took over the

reins midway through last season, Croatia have never looked back, the shrewd signing of striker Tony Krslovic was a master stroke, but the fans are still waiting to see if Blaz Sliskovic is going to appear with the club.

Along with one of the best defensive records in the league, Croatia remain unbeaten at home and will prove a tough nut to crack for the Wolves on Sunday.

Wollongong, the league's surprise packets, have won their last two away from home, scoring five and conceding just one goal.

They slid badly in the 4-1 loss to South Melbourne on their home ground on Sunday.

Up for grabs is a precious two points as both clubs chase a place in the top five, but at home Croatia should win narrowly.

This season's newly promoted clubs Wollongong Macedonia and Heidelberg go to battle at Brandon Park on Sunday.

With both sides struggling in front of goal, a dour encounter looks likely this weekend.

Macedonia have failed to find the net in 360 minutes of league football on their home turf, while the Bergers have scored only once in their last four matches.

The signings of Zeljko Jurin and Steve Gojevic from Sydney Croatia will bolster the

QUIT NATIONAL LEAGUE TABLE

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Marconi.....	10	7	0	3	21	13	14
South Melbourne.....	10	5	4	1	16	9	14
Preston.....	10	5	3	2	16	9	13
Melb. Croatia.....	10	5	3	2	24	18	13
Adelaide City.....	10	3	5	2	11	10	11

Wollongong City.....	10	5	1	4	13	13	11
Sydney Croatia.....	10	3	5	2	9	9	11
Sydney Olympic.....	10	2	6	2	11	13	10
Apia Leichhardt.....	10	4	1	5	13	12	9
Parramatta.....	10	3	3	4	15	15	9
Heidelberg Utd.....	10	2	4	4	10	13	8
St George.....	10	1	4	5	10	16	6

Sunshine GC.....	10	2	2	6	17	26	6
Wollongong Macedonia.....	10	0	5	5	4	14	5

Results

MARCONI 3 (Seal 2, Markovski) PARRA MELITA 2 (Cerro, Gunning) at Marconi Stadium. Crowd: 2650.
HEIDELBERG 0 ADELAIDE CITY 0 at Olympic Village. Crowd: 1000.
APIA LEICHHARDT 3 (Bundalo, Gomez, Stewart) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0 at Lambert Park. Crowd: 2105.
PRESTON 1 (Trajanovski) SYDNEY CROATIA 0 at Connor Reserve. Crowd: 2800.
MELBOURNE CROATIA 3 (Awaritefe, Davidson, Kelic) SYDNEY OLYMPIC 3 (Sorras, Ironside, Bennett) at Somers St. Crowd: 2500.
ST GEORGE 0 WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA 0 at St George Stadium. Crowd: 1694.
WOLLONGONG CITY 1 (Lloyd) SOUTH MELBOURNE 4 (Michalakopoulos 2, Trimboli, Wright) at Brandon Park. Crowd: 2473.

CROWDS

ROUND 10: 15,222
AVERAGE PER GAME: 2,174
TOTAL ATTENDANCE: 219,070
AVERAGE PER ROUND: 21,907

TOP SCORERS

DAVID SEAL (Marconi)	8
TONY KRSLOVIC (Sydney Croatia)	7
GREG BROWN (Parramatta)	6
WARREN SPINK (Preston)	6
IVAN KELIC (Melbourne Croatia)	5

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY

(02) 660 2033

stocks at Wollongong, while George Slifkas should return from suspension for the Bergers.

While Heidelberg have not won away since the opening round, they should be a little too strong for the home side this weekend.

South Melbourne should have little trouble in extending their long unbeaten home run when they host the struggling St George on Sunday.

With only two goals away from home in their last four matches, Saints coach Frank Arok is placing heavy responsibility on the shoulders of young

Matthew Bingley to deliver the goods.

If Paul Trimboli and Company get going again, Arok's boys could be in for a hiding.

Old rivals, Sydney Olympic and Apia meet for the 24th time in the NSL this Sunday at St George Stadium.

Apia, with only five victories down those years, should have custodian Brett Hughes back from injury.

However, Olympic, unbeaten at home and on a high after their magnificent comeback to share the points with Melbourne Croatia, should take the spoils.

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P.O. BOX 406 BROADWAY NSW 2007
★ Tel: (02) 660 2033 ★ FAX: (02) 692 0649
★ TELEX: AA22141
Published every Monday by Foreign Language Publications Pty. Ltd.
(A company incorporated in New South Wales)
1-9 Glebe Point Rd, Glebe NSW 2037.

DISTRIBUTION:

NSW/ACT: Wrapaway Transport, 34 Fitzroy St, Marrickville, 2204. Tel (02) 550 1622. VICTORIA: Southdown Press, 32 Walsh St, West Melbourne 3003. Tel: (03) 320 7000. QUEENSLAND: Queensland Newspapers, Campbell St, Bowen Hills 4006. Tel: (07) 252 6011. SOUTH AUSTRALIA: Advertiser Newspapers Ltd Waymouth St, Adelaide 5000 Tel: (08) 218 9329. WESTERN AUSTRALIA: West Australian Newspapers Ltd, 125 St George Terrace, Perth 6000. Tel (09) 321 0161.

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Telephone: (03) 416 1255
FAX: (03) 419 2870

Recommended and maximum price only \$1.60.
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Results of early weekend league action, plus a full list of weekend league fixtures. From 3am Sunday, live, the BBC match of the day from England.

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Olympic fight their way back

BY JOHN MANGAN

SYDNEY Olympic overcame staggering injury problems and a 3-0 deficit to salvage a point in a stirring 3-3 draw with Melbourne Croatia at North Sunshine on Sunday.

In greasy conditions Melbourne Croatia looked set to repeat their 6-0 thrashing of Marconi last week as they raced to a 3-0 lead early in the second half.



David Miller

But it was not to be as Mick Hickman's team rediscovered their goal touch after Melbourne Croatia were reduced to 10 men with the sending off of defender George Hannah.

Melbourne Croatia, still without a coach following the sacking of Ante Grgic two weeks ago, appeared rudderless as Olympic surged forward to exploit their extra man.

Davidson worked the ball to Biskic on the right. His cross was volleyed into the net by Francis Awaritefe.

Biskic and Davidson were again instrumental in Croatia's second goal in the 30th minute. Biskic tapped a free kick to Davidson whose low hard shot from outside the box gave goalkeeper Clint Gosling no chance.

Four minutes into the second half Croatia appeared to seal the game when Ivan Kelic fired an Awaritefe header to make it 3-0.

Then the game turned around as Hickman replaced Lou Triantafyllou and Craig Sharpley with Pablo Cardoza and George Sorras in the 53rd minute.

Minutes later Hannah was sent off for a deliberate handball — his second bookable offence of the game.

Olympic pushed forward and in the 65th minute Sorras headed a deflected shot past Croatia keeper David Miller to pull one back.

Olympic found another gap in the 75th minute when Robbie Ironside headed home a long pass from David Barrett.

The visitors' hard work was rewarded five minutes from time when Jason Bennett had a stroke of luck.

His close-range shot hit the post and bounced into the goal off the unfortunate goalkeeper.

MELBOURNE CROATIA: Miller 4, Davidson 7, Marth 6, Selemidis 6, Hannah 6 (sent off 58), Duzel 6



Francis Awaritefe

Alan Davidson and Josip Biskic set up the home team's commanding lead.

In the 19th minute

SAINTS HOT-LINE

Soccer & Stadium Information
0055 21160

Updated every day and every 15 minutes during home games.

Apia unfazed by Sunshine

BY LACHLAN BARKER



COMPREHENSIVE is the word to describe Apia Leichhardt's 3-0 victory over Sunshine George Cross at Lambert Park last night.

Sunshine's plane was delayed and they only made the changing rooms 20 minutes before kickoff, but this was unfortunately no excuse for a gallant but disjointed visting side.

Apia gave their replacement keeper Sam Butera — Brett Hughes was injured last week — a nerve-jangling introduction to the big league, when first Darren Stewart and then Mark Brown almost put own goals past him.

Luckily for him he made creditable saves and this gave his confidence a much needed boost.

But unfortunately for Sunshine this was as close as they were to come to scoring.

Apia opened the scoring in the 36th minute when Stewart made room on the right and fired in a useful cross to the far post.

Arriving like the Indian Pacific was Gerry Gomez whose header was powerful and precise, leaving Sunshine keeper, Frank Talia, clutching empty air and nothing more.

After this Apia went searching for more goals.

Stewart provided a thoughtful goal in the 42nd.

He won the ball on the right flank and was seemingly preparing to cross when he drove it straight at the goal.

This caught the Sunshine defence napping, and the ball slipped into the corner of the net despite a despairing dive by Talia.

So the sides went to the break with Apia leading 2-0 but the result was clear for all to see.

When Alex Bundalo made it 3-0 in the 53rd minute, it was all over bar the shouting.

Like the first goal, this one came from an Apia defender working hard on the flank and delivering a precision cross.

In this case it was veteran defender Graham Jennings, a player worth his weight in gold to any team, who sighted Bundalo ghosting into the penalty area at the far post.

Bundalo was free as a bird and had no trouble netting his header.

Unluckily for Sunshine, hard working forward Andy Humble was sent off in the 75th minute. He was somewhat unlucky but it made no difference to the final result.

Likeable, quiet spoken Sunshine coach Ernie Merrick was subdued after the game but prepared to face facts.

"I would like to blame our late arrival for this performance, but unfortunately we always play badly away from home".

He was also prepared to give credit to Manfred Schaefer and

the Apia team, saying, "Apia always play well here at Lambert Park."

"They know it is too tight to play in the centre so they use a lot of long balls to the wing and this found us out today. Bundalo's goal was a good example — we just did not pick him up".

Apia coach Schaefer was naturally happy after the game but like Merrick gave credit to his opponents.

"Sunshine are a good young team. They are always fighting and the likes of Clarkson and Foster are always dangerous".

Schaefer will be sleeping easy these days, knowing that all

members of today's team performed above expectation while Brian Ellem, Shane Clinch, Klaus Okon and Brett Hughes are all on the comeback trail.

APIA LEICHHARDT: Butera 6, Blagojevic 6, Jennings 7, Stewart 7, M Brown 7, McQuarrie 6, Maloney 6, Gomez 7 (R Brown 63), McFadden 6, Bundalo 7, Lemezina 7.

SUNSHINE GC: Talia 5, Roodhouse 5, Mori 5, Waddell 6, Ketsakidis 5, C Foster 6, Hunter 6, De Amicis 6 (Cranney 70), Hassler 5 (Kindtner 45m 5), Clarkson 6, Humble 5.

YELLOW CARDS: Hassler, Humble for Sunshine. **RED CARD:** Humble (Sunshine).

SCORERS: Gomez, Stewart, Bundalo (Apia).

REFEREE: B. Monteverde 6.

CROWD: 2105



Former Uruguayan international Washington Gonzalez on the prowl for Parramatta Melita against Marconi on Saturday. Photo: STEPHEN GOSCH.

Sydney Olympic takes off with Olympic Airways

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

OLYMPIC Airways has signed an agreement to sponsor Sydney Olympic to the value of \$50,400 for the rest of the National Soccer League season.

Club general manager Stefan Kamasz told ASW: "We have received air tickets worth \$50,400 on Olympic Airways flights."

"It is a business deal in which we must provide them with solid exposure as well as traffic."

"We will do this by using their logo on our playing shirts, plus ground signage at St George Stadium for our home games."

"We have to raise the cash by selling the tickets to our supporters."

"We hope to have

the new shirts ready for our next home game against Apia on Sunday.

"I must take this opportunity to acknowledge the assistance of Nick Asargiotis, in the negotiations."

Mr Asargiotis is on the NSL referees' panel and has run the line at NSL matches.

Olympic president George Pashalis said: "It is very pleasing to have a world-wide Greek company in Olympic Airways sponsoring a Greek-supported soccer club. We're certainly most grateful to them."



QUEENSLAND SOCCER FEDERATION

The Queensland Soccer Federation wishes to appoint a Director of Coaching for the Brisbane and West Moreton area.

Applicants must possess at least ASF level III accreditation.

The successful applicant will join an existing group of Regional coaches in Queensland, working under the control of the State Director of Coaching.

All applications would be considered for any other vacancies that may occur throughout the state.

Duties include:

- Maintenance and improvement of coaching standards in the area.
- Identification and development of talented youth players.
- Development of the code at primary, secondary and tertiary institutions.

Written applications are to be directed to:

The Secretary,
Queensland Soccer Federation
Perry Park
Abbotsford Rd
MAYNE QLD 4006

Applications close January 11th, 1991.



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Souths hammer Wolves

BY LEN CHAFER

WOLLONGONG City went down to the tune of 4-1 to South Melbourne at Brandon Park last night.

South Melbourne, who led 1-0 at the interval, sent Wollongong packing in the second half with three goals in 23 minutes.

Their first goal in the first half came in the 25th minute when Mike Petersen hit a 40-metre harmless free kick. Wollongong goalkeeper George Bouhoutsos saved low down on the near post, but he failed to hold the ball and Machalakopoulos, following up, put the ball into the empty net.

Wollongong City had a chance as early as the first minute when Dan-

ny Petkovic shot from 15 metres after a long throw from David Green but the ball flashed wide of the far post.

South Melbourne went in at half time leading 1-0.

The first goal for South Melbourne in the second half came in the 52nd minute when Petersen took a corner from the left which was touched on by Danny Wright. Bouhoutsos came out of his goal but missed the ball, and Trimboli had the easiest of chances to put the ball into the net from close range.

Wollongong City replied with a goal in the 58th minute when Jason Oldridge received the

ball near the half way line, and pushed it to David Skeen.

He ran a few metres before releasing the ball to Mike Hollifield, whose first cross was met by Lloyd, whose glancing header went into the top corner of the net.

South Melbourne scored another goal in the 66th minute when a good cross from Con Boutsianis was claimed down by the Wollongong goalkeeper into the path of Wright, who made no mistake from six metres.

Wollongong City had to push players forward and this led to South Melbourne's fourth goal which came in the 75th minute.

A long clearance down the right wing from the Souths defence found Michalakopoulos free; he outsped Wollongong's defence, and with Bouhoutsos coming off the line, his right foot shot went flying into the right corner of the net.

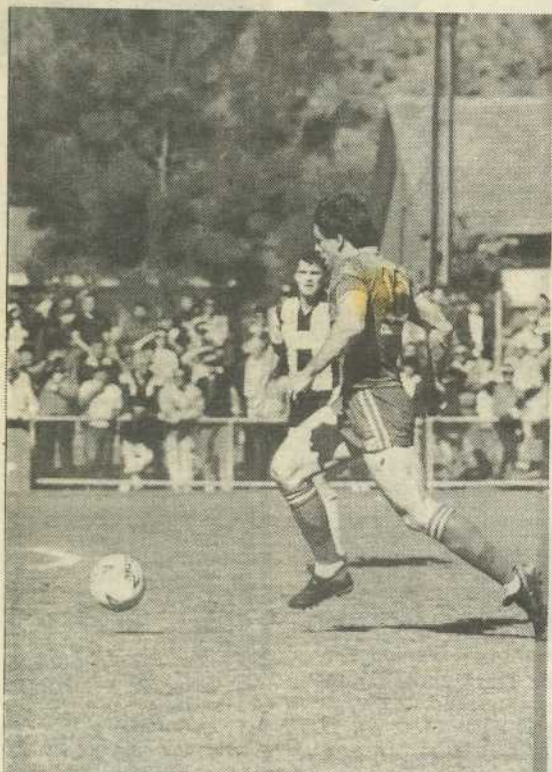
WOLLONGONG CITY: Bouhoutsos 4, Green 7, Hollifield 5, Morlando 6, Yankos 7, Lloyd 8, Skeen 6, Petkovic 6 (Farmer 58), Bate 5, Brodnik 5, Oldridge 5.

SOUTH MELBOURNE: MacLaren 6, Healy 6, Postecoglou 5, Durakovic 6, Blair 7, Wade 6, Michalakopoulos 8, Petersen 6 (Fernandes 80), Trimboli 6, Wright 6, Boutsianis 7 (Palatsidis 82).

SCORERS: Lloyd 58m (WC); Michalakopoulos 25m 75m, Trimboli 52m, Wright 66m (SM).

YELLOW CARDS: Wade 71m (SM); Hollifield 53m, Skeen 62m, Morlando 71m (WC).

REFEREE: J. McConnell 5.
CROWD: 2,473.



Wollongong Macedonia striker Graeme Fletcher in a typical sprint. Photo: JANUSZ KAMMA.

Filan saves a point

BY JOHN ECONOMOS

ST GEORGE last night struggled against a spirited late second half display by Wollongong Macedonia to gain a vital lead point in their 0-0 draw at the St George Stadium.

But the Saints can only blame themselves for not taking both points by horrendously failing to capitalise on three early chances before Wollongong's tremendous fight back.

In fact, the last 20 minutes of the lacklustre battle turned into a John Filan versus Wollongong Macedonia contest.

Filan, in fact, pulled off three miraculous second half saves from shots fired in by midfielder Sasha Becvinovski (58th) and Graeme Fletcher (60th and 80th).

The first half ended in a dreadful scoreless affair with scrappy football coming both sides.

Saint George threatened in the 29th minute following a free kick awarded two metres outside Wollongong Macedonia's penalty area.

Giant centre back and captain Andy Koczka rocketed his drive on target but the alert goalkeeper Warwick Young diving to his right turned the danger around his post.

Macedonia fielded their newly signed striker, Zeljko Jurin, signed from Sydney Croatia for a bargain fee of \$7,000.

Three minutes after half time St George again disappointed when striker Zoran Ilic crossed into Wollongong's box but Matt Bingley from just three metres skied his shot



over the bar.

Saints for the third time failed to hit the target in the 70th when this time Ilic was the culprit.

Leftback Manuel Spanoudakis whipped in a cross from the left but Ilic disappointed him greatly by blasting his point-blank shot straight into the eager arms of Wollongong's goalkeeper.

From then on the South Coasters launched attack after attack against Filan who gallantly stood between them and victory.

Fletcher turned a defender in the 60th minute but his 14-metre shot was blocked by Filan and 10 minutes later Filan again denied the same player after having two bites of the cherry.

Paul Kay, Wollongong's dynamic little midfielder, was a metre wide with his 25 metre thunderbolt 10 minutes from fulltime and a minute later the same player set up Fletcher with a long cross into the box.

But Fletcher who should have scored the winner watched in horror as Filan reeled off successive blocks from consecutive Fletcher shots.

ST GEORGE: Filan 8, Milicevic 5, O'Shea 5, Koczka 5, Spanoudakis 5, Moffitt 5, Katovic 5, Colagiuri 5, El-Ali 7, Ilic 5 (Easthorpe 75), Bingley 5.

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA: Young 7, Sandy 5, Demov 5, Dunn 5, Cavanagh 5, Becvinovski 5 (Gojevic 89), Kay 6, Bourke 5, Thornthwaite 5, Jurin 5, Fletcher 6.

YELLOW CARDS: Moffitt 52m, Koczka 68m (STG); Kay 30m (WM), Dimov 69m (WM).

REFEREE: R Lorenc 8.
CROWD: 1,694.

Ivan Petkovic — having a magnificent season with Sydney Croatia — Photo by STEPHEN GOSCH.

NSL YOUTH LEAGUES

SOUTHERN DIVISION 9 December

Northern City 1 (Keranis) Sunshine George Cross 4 (Callermole, Attard, Zacharias, Sherifovski), Preston Macedonia 8 (Georgopoulos 3, Ferranter 2, Markovac 2, Trajkovski) Melbourne Croatia Colts 1 (Suric), Brighton 1 South Melbourne Hellas 3 (Nikolopoulos 2, Kyrikilis), South Melbourne Hellas Colts 1 (own goal) Altona Gate 3 (Nicoski 2, Latomanski), Heidelberg United 2 (Papadopoulos, Mangos) Adelaide City 5 (Perin 2, Brooks, Guastella, Ianniello), Springvale City 1 (Baccioli) Caulfield City 1 (Alikakos), Melbourne Croatia 0 (White, Jerbic, Buljubasic) Geelong City 0 (Plummer).

	P	W	D	L	F	A	Pts
Adelaide City	10	9	1	0	35	10	19
Preston Mak	10	6	2	2	26	12	14
Sunshine GC	10	6	2	2	24	18	14
SMH	10	5	3	2	26	14	13
Melb. Croatia	10	6	0	4	30	17	12
Caulfield	10	4	4	2	15	12	12
Heidelberg	10	5	2	3	19	17	12
Altona Gate	10	5	1	4	18	13	11
Geelong City	10	2	3	5	15	25	7
SMH Colts	10	3	1	6	9	23	7
Springvale	10	1	3	6	11	22	5
Northcote City	10	2	1	7	15	31	5
Melb. Cr Colts	10	2	1	7	13	29	5
Brighton	10	2	0	8	6	19	4

LEADING GOALSCORERS

Carlo Talladira Adelaide City 9, George Alikakos Caulfield City 8, Nick Papadopoulos Heidelberg United 8, Mitchell Callermole Sunshine George Cross 7, Jani Suric Melbourne Croatia 6, Michael Michalakopoulos 6, Athan Zacharias Sunshine George Cross 6, Joe Barbaro Adelaide City 5, Richard Milanovic Melbourne Croatia 5, Hussein Skenderovic Melbourne Croatia 5, Peter Tiktakis South Melbourne Hellas 5, Craig Plummer Geelong City 5, Peter Nikolopoulos South Melbourne Hellas 5, Benny Cacciotti Springvale City 5.

— ROY HAY

HAVE YOUR SAY . . .

OUR man at various NSL matches in NSW, Stephen Oldridge, is there specially to collect a cross section of ideas from some important people — the members of the soccer public.

He is identifiable by his media badge, and will be glad to obtain your views on the progress of the game.

AUSTRALIAN SOCCER WEEKLY will then print a selection of the pointers that he has obtained.

What are your ideas to advance the great game of soccer football? Tell them to Stephen Oldridge, as he moves to various grounds.

ANOTHER HIGHLY READABLE ASW FEATURE

I was on hand at the NSL Cup game between Apia Leichhardt and Wollongong City, last Wednesday night at St George Stadium.

Here are a few interesting comments from people in the crowd.

FRANK LACASTRO: "I believe that over the past ten years the NSL has shown very little improvement. Soccer has not advanced in this country."

JOHN TULLY: "The NSL Cup has great potential. With the right ingredients and market-

ing, a major sponsor could be attracted. The Cup could be based on the FA Cup structure. The potential is enormous."

TONY: "I think we should revert back to the first grade, reserve and under 19s setup. As a player I found the jump to first grade too much. I feel you need more time to mature. Reserve grade would allow this to happen."

LINDY STEPHENS: "How is soccer in Australia going to get ahead when a TV station can't bring you one of the highest scoring games of the season because of camera failure. It's just not good enough."

PLAYER AWARDS

Preston v Sydney Croatia

- 3 Markovac (P)
2 Parton (P)
1 Kupresak (BC)

St George v Woll Mac

- 3 Filan (StG)
2 El Ali (StG)
1 Young (W Mac)

Apia v Sunshine

- 3 Bundalo (Ap)
2 Stewart (Ap)
1 Jennings (Ap)

M. Croatia v S. Olympic

- 3 Biskic (MC)
2 Barrett (SO)
1 Bennett (SO)

Sth Melb v W'gong City

- 3 Michalakopoulos (SM)
2 Blair (SM)
1 Lloyd (WC)

Heidelberg v Adelaide City

- 3 A. Vidmar (AC)
2 Zabica (AC)
1 McDowall (H)

Marconi v Melita

- 3 Gray (Marc)
2 Lowe (Marc)
1 Cerro (Mel)

PLAYER POINTS

- 13: J. Filan (StG)
12: Stubbins (H)
11: Petkovic (Syd Cr), Bundalo (Apia)
10: Biskic (MC)
8: Stewart (Ap), Ivanovic (AC), Lowe (Mar)
7: Krslovic (Syd Cr), Jackson (P), Ironside (SO), Skeen, Yankos (WC), Zabica (AC), McDowall (H), Gray (Mar), McCulloch (Mar), McPherson (ME)

Newcastle BHP Austral has not been letting the grass grow under its feet. The Steeple City is close to wrapping up its case for re-entry into the NSL. Last time around its crowds were the best in Australian soccer, but the infrastructure was flimsy.

This time the club has its own ground, facilities being developed, and is under the control of a prospering licensed social club which is devoted to the future of soccer football in the Hunter.

Richard Miranda is temporarily out of action as Apia Leichhardt and Adelaide Hellas haggle over a transfer fee. Apia would like to sign him, but cannot afford the \$10,000 fee the South Australians are demanding for the South African-born midfielder.

City unlucky not to secure the points

BY PETROS KOSMOPOULOS

HEIDELBERG and Adelaide City fought out a 0-0 draw Sunday night at Olympic Village.

The visitors could consider themselves unlucky that they returned to Adelaide with only a point as they created many chances to score but could not find the back of the net.

Heidelberg came into the game with three changes in its side which lost 0-4 last week to Melita.

Terry Rizotoulis, Phil Stubbins and Nick Ousalkas replaced the suspended Angelo Goutzoulis, George Slifkas and Gary Bratten, although Adelaide City came to Melbourne without the injured soccerroo Ernie Tapai.

Both teams started the match playing fast and attacking soccer, but it was the home side which created the first good chance of the game in the 14th minute when a well struck shot by Les Carter was saved by Soccerroo goalkeeper Robert Zabica.

Adelaide City came close to scoring in the 37th minute with a Maxwell shot which went just wide of the post.

Heidelberg applied the pressure in the last five minutes of the first half but could not break through the stubborn Adelaide City defence.

A shot by Stuart Stevenson in the 42nd minute went close and a minute before the break Robert Zabica

saved a well struck shot by Stubbins.

Joe Barbaro replaced John Christopoulos at the half time break for Adelaide City but could

went over the crossbar.

It was Heidelberg's turn to create a good chance in the 69th minute when a well struck shot by



Marconi's David Lowe puts everything behind his shot at the Melita game at Marconi Stadium on Saturday night — Pic: STEPHEN GOSCH.

not make an impact on the game.

Both teams started off the second half where they left off before the break.

The football was fast and fluent but neither team could break through the defences.

Adelaide was disallowed a goal in the 55th minute when a cross from Csoboth found Aurelio Vidmar who sent a very good

header to the back of the net but referee John Fraser whistled for a push by an Adelaide City forward on a Heidelberg defender.

Again Adelaide City came close in the 66th minute when a good cross from Maxwell found a well placed Barbaro whose header

Stevenson was saved by the ever so reliable Zabica for a corner.

Adelaide could consider itself unlucky it did not score the all important goal 10 minutes from the end when a dipping shot from Maxwell hit the post.

HEIDELBERG UNITED: Oliver 6, Kanesoulis 7, Bordignon 4, MacDowall 7, Canell 6, Ousalkas 5, Stubbins 6, Herd 6, Stevenson 5, Rizopoulos 4, Carter 5.

ADELAIDE CITY: Zabica 7, Shillabear 5, T Vidmar 7, Ivanovich 5, Tobin 5, Melita 7, Christopoulos 4 (Barbaro ht), Csoboth 6, Mullen 5, Maxwell 4, A Vidmar 8.

YELLOW CARDS: MacDowall for Heidelberg; Csoboth for Ad City.

REFEREE: John Fraser 6.

CROWD: 1,000 (approx).



Sunshine's rising star Lorenz Kindtner (centre) tries to get past South Melbourne stars Steve Tasios (right) and Mehmet Durakovic. Photo credit: JOE MONTEMURRO.

Kris to the rescue

BY GREG BLAKE

PRESTON shook off first half lethargy and defence-oriented Sydney Croatia to grab a late winner in a 1-0 victory at Connor Reserve yesterday.

Kris Trajanovski belted home a 12-metre shot with less than three minutes on the clock to give Preston the match points and maintain its place in the Top Five.

For the home side, the victory was well deserved.

After a forgettable first half, Preston came out with all guns blazing to take on the dominating Sydney Croatia defence.

Spurred by hard-running wide midfielder Robbie Markovac, speedster Andrew Zinni and workhouse George Petrov, Preston put together a blistering second half attacking display which netted them 17 shots on goal to a miserly three to the visitors.

It was only the efforts of Sydney Croatia's magnificent back four, marshalled magnificently by Velimir Kupresak, which kept Preston from running up the score it probably deserved.

Ironically, Sydney Croatia might have taken the lead early after halftime when Tony Krslovic shot wide after having done the hard work in meeting Preston goalkeeper

Phil Traianedes.

But the home side bounced back from that hiccup to continue on its merry attacking way.

Warren Spink, who received some dreadful service from his teammates on the day, missed two chances that he might otherwise have taken, one on either side of halftime, with the best coming right on full-time as he chipped over the crossbar.

Man of the match Markovac nearly scored a spectacular match opener in the 66th minute with a 20 metre drive which flew centimetres wide of the post.

In the end it was up to out of sorts former AIS star Trajanovski to net the winner as the match clock ticked into its closing moments.

Steve Jackson's run set up the goal as he sent Markovac away down the left hand side and his cross was headed on by Spink to where Trajanovski slammed the ball home on the turn from 12 metres.

Sydney Croatia coach Tony Vrzina conceded that Preston had deserved the vic-



tory on its second half performance.

John Gardiner, Vrzina's opposite number at Preston, was relieved at getting a late, but deserved winner.

"We had to break down a brick wall," Gardiner said after the game.

"Our commitment and discipline was tremendous and it was better to break down the brick wall at the end of the game which gave them no time to get an equaliser."

PRESTON MAKEDONIA: Traianedes 7, Roodhouse 7, Jolevski 7, Jackson 7, Parton 8, Petrov 6, Zinni 6, Trajanovski 5, Spink 5, Crino 6, Markovac 8.

SYDNEY CROATIA: Franken 7, Carter 7, Popovic 7, Zelic 6, Kupresak 8, Runje 6, Petkovic 7, Gibson 6, Ricoy 6 (Stanton 83), Lamond 5, Krslovic 5 (Koch 89).

SCORERS: Trajanovski 88m (P).

REFEREE: C Bambridge 7.

CROWD: 2,800.

QUIT NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE



WEEKEND FIXTURES

ROUND 11



SATURDAY, DECEMBER 15

MELITA EAGLES v MELBOURNE CROATIA
Melita Stadium 6pm

SUNDAY, DECEMBER 16

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS v ST GEORGE BSC
Middle Park 6pm

SYDNEY CROATIA v WOLLONGONG CITY
Croatian Spts C 6pm

SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
Skinner Reserve 6pm

ADELAIDE CITY v MARCONI
Hindmarsh Stadium 8pm

WOLLONGONG MACEDONIA v HEIDELBERG
Brandon Park 6pm

SYDNEY OLYMPIC v APIA LEICHHARDT
St George Stadium 7pm



Ansett.



Marconi takes points in thriller

BY FRANK SCICLUNA

TWO dramatic goals in the space of two minutes early in the second half triggered off a Marconi recovery, which led to a thrilling 3-2 win over a courageous Melita Eagles at a rain-soaked Marconi Stadium on Saturday night.

After that 6-0 debacle in Melbourne in their last outing, the big question being asked was whether the Fairfielders could pick up the pieces and get back on the winning trail against the in-form Eagles.

With 18-year-old goalkeeper Mark Schwarzer making his NSL debut and down 1-0 at half-time, it looked a mighty difficult proposition.

But Marconi showed plenty of character in a second half fightback to clinch the points.

Melita for their part were by no means outclassed in a match which had everything, as both teams attacked each other with gay abandon in a see-sawing climax.



JOHN MARKOVSKI: 55th minute scorer.

Perhaps the only blotch on a night chock full of drama and entertainment was the inept performance of referee Alex Spiroski, who never looked in control of proceedings.

Three yellow cards to Melita in the first session, and another to

Marconi's Ian Gray late in the second, were in no way a fair reflection of a match that was never a vicious one.

Although Marconi had much the better of the opening half hour, in which a number of good chances were created, it was the Eagles who led at the interval by a Gus Cerro goal deep into injury-time.

Cerro tried his luck from 20 metres after dispossessing Tom McCulloch, and his low shot found its way past a hesitant Schwarzer just inside the near post.

But Melita only enjoyed their lead for a short 10 minutes, as Marconi came fighting back with two stunning goals in quick succession.

A free kick from the edge of the area was hammered home in spectacular style by midfielder John Markovski in the 55th minute for the equaliser.

Moments later David Seal finished off a splendid attacking move to put Marconi in front.

A determined run by Gray — who adds so much power to the Marconi engine room — completely split the Melita defence, and his pass to McCulloch was promptly despatched for the unmarked Seal on the far post to

pick his spot with a solid header.

With the Fairfielders in the driving seat, Melita rolled up their sleeves, went surging forward in search of an equaliser and got it just six minutes later.

A Hugo Gimenez corner kick was twice touched on, first by Greg Brown, then Marshall Soper, before former Marconi striker Geoff Gunning sneaked in behind the defence to joyfully force the ball over the line.

The match by now was so finely balanced that it could easily have gone either way, as both teams missed good chances to find the winner.

David Lowe first sent his shot wide from six metres in the 65th minute, and seconds later it was Gray who was forced into a spectacular goal-line clearance to rescue Marconi.

In the end it was a sparkling move involving teenagers Paul Okon and Seal which clinched Marconi's victory.

Okon went past two defenders before slipping a finely measured through ball inside the area for Seal to go around keeper Alex McPherson and somehow guided home from the tightest of angles.

MARCONI: Schwarzer 6, Wheatley 6 (Nastevski 65m), de Marigny 6, Calderan 6, Okon 7, Gray 8, McCulloch 6, Jones 7, Seal 7, Markovski 7, Lowe 7.

PARRAMATTA MELITA: McPherson 7, O'Donnell 6, Callinan 7, Barrios 6, Gonzalez 6, Gunning 7, Nowicki 6 (Parison 73m), Gimenez 7, Soper 7, Cerro 7, Brown 6.

SCORERS: Markovski 55m, Seal 57, 77m for Marconi; Cerro 46m, Gunning 62m for Melita.

YELLOW CARDS: Gray 87m for Marconi; Barrios 20m, Gimenez 31m, McPherson 43m for Melita.

REFEREE: A Spiroski 4.

CROWD: 2650.



Marconi's Tom McCulloch (left) and Hugo Gimenez of Melita Eagles strain every muscle as they fight for possession last Saturday at Marconi Stadium — Photo STEVE GOSCH.

KEEN LATIF

SUNSHINE George Cross striker Ossie Latif has played only six summer NSL matches and is yet to make his first appearance this season.

"It's up to Ernie (coach Ernie Merrick) when that will be but I'm hoping it's next week against Preston Makedonia," said Latif, who was the joint leading goalscorer last season after six games until a crippling knee injury ended his season abruptly.

He had to have a total reconstruction of the left knee but he believes he has made a total recovery and is 'raring to go.'

"I blame the hard grounds but I have also learned other lessons such as making sure I am properly warmed up before doing anything," he said.

Mitre Fair Play Trophy

THE winner for the month of November in the 1990/91 Mitre fair Play award is South Melbourne Hellas.

They have achieved this with only two yellow cards and eight points in four matches.

Sydney Olympic are maintaining their fair play standard by still being the leaders in the progressive total with 33 points, just ahead of the November winners, South Melbourne, who have moved from eighth to second overall in November.

Holders of the trophy, Marconi, are in third place. Only five points separates the first three teams.

South Melbourne will be presented with their prize prior to the commencement of the round 11 fixture against Saints at Middle Park.

MITRE FAIR PLAY CUP

NOVEMBER TABLE
(Lesser numbers — best results)

	P	YC	RC	P	PTS
Sth Melbourne	4	2	-	2	8
Sydney Olympic	4	4	-	4	18
Sunshine G.C.	4	3	-	3	18
Marconi	4	4	-	4	22
Wollongong Macedonia	4	5	-	6	22
Sydney Croatia	4	5	-	5	22
Apia Leichhardt	4	5	-	5	22
Adelaide City	4	5	1	6	23
Preston Makedonia	4	5	1	5	23
Melita Eagles	4	6	-	6	33
Melbourne Croatia	4	8	1	9	38
St George	4	7	1	8	40
Wollongong City	4	6	2	8	41
Heidelberg United	4	10	1	11	58

PROGRESSIVE POINT SCORE

Sydney Olympic	8	8	-	6	33
Sth Melbourne	8	5	-	5	36
Marconi	8	7	-	7	38
Sunshine G.C.	8	7	1	7	40
Wollongong Mace	8	11	-	7	48
Sydney Croatia	8	12	-	7	49
Apia Leichhardt	8	11	-	9	50
Adelaide City	8	10	2	10	55
St George	8	12	1	11	59
Preston Makedonia	8	12	1	9	61
Wollongong City	8	14	2	10	71
Melita Eagles	8	14	2	10	80
Melbourne Croatia	8	17	1	12	81
Heidelberg United	8	19	1	12	95

FAIRFIELD EAGLES

PLAYERS REQUIRED

by the above team, which plays in the NSW Federation Leagues competition.

Anyone interested, please be at Terone Park, Ellery St, Bossley Park on the official training night, January 9, 1991 at 6pm, or contact Alex Odisho on 610 5669 (after hours).

* LIVE QNSL BROADCASTS *

ASW's Greg Blake can be heard each weekend on 3AK's SUPER SOCCER SUNDAY

— CHECK YOUR RADIO GUIDE FOR DETAILS —

3AK 1503 *The Renaissance*

SOCCER POOLS

THE POOLS

THIS WEEK'S MATCH LIST

WEEK 281
SAT. 15th DECEMBER, 1990

ENGLISH DIVISION 1	ARSENAL	WIMBLEDON	1
	COVENTRY	MAN. UNITED	2
	DERBY	CHELSEA	3
	LIVERPOOL	SHEFFIELD UTD.	4
	Q.P.R.	NOTT'M. FOREST	5
ENGLISH DIVISION 2	SUNDERLAND	NORWICH	6
	BLACKBURN	BRISTOL C.	7
	BRIGHTON	BARNLEY	8
	BRISTOL R.	LEICESTER	9
	MILLWALL	WATFORD	10
ENGLISH DIVISION 3	NOTTS. C.	HULL	11
	OLDHAM	WOLVES	12
	PORT VALE	OXFORD UTD.	13
	SHEFF. WED.	IPSWICH	14
	SWINDON	CHARLTON	15
ENGLISH DIVISION 4	WEST BROM.	PORTSMOUTH	16
	WEST HAM	MIDDLESBRO	17
	BIRMINGHAM	ROTHERHAM	18
	BRADFORD C.	CAMBRIDGE U.	19
	BURY	EXETER	20
ENGLISH DIVISION 5	CREWE	HUDDERSFIELD	21
	FULHAM	BOLTON	22
	LEYTON O.	PRESTON	23
	MANSFIELD	CHESTER	24
	SHREWSBURY	WIGAN A.	25
ENGLISH DIVISION 6	SOUTHEND	GRIMSBY	26
	ALDERSHOT	HEREFORD	27
	BLACKPOOL	MAIDSTONE	28
	CARDIFF	WALSALL	29
	CARLISLE	NORTHAMPTON	30
ENGLISH DIVISION 7	DARLINGTON	TORQUAY	31
	GILLINGHAM	BURNLEY	32
	HALIFAX	CHESTERFIELD	33
	HARTLEPOOL	LINCOLN	34
	PETERBORO	YORK	35
ENGLISH DIVISION 8	ROCHDALE	WREXHAM	36
	SCARBORO	STOCKPORT	37
	SCUNTHORPE	DONCASTER	38

RESERVE MATCHES

†	BURTON A.	FARNBORO	39
	CHELMSFORD	ATHERSTONE	40
	CRAWLEY	BROMSGROVE	41
	DARTFORD	BASHLEY	42
	LEYTON W.TE	MARLOW	43
VAUX. LGE. PREM. DIV.	REDBRIDGE	HAYES	44
	STAINES	ST. ALBANS	45
	WIVENHOE T.	BOGNOR R.	46
	ABERDEEN	MOTHERWELL	47
	CELTIC	DUNFERMLINE	48
SCOT. PREM. DIVISION 1	HIBERNIAN	DUNDEE U.	49
	ST JOHNSTONE	HEARTS	50
	ST. MIRREN	RANGERS	51
	AYR	AIRDRIE	52
	CLYDE	MEADOWBANK	53
SCOTTISH DIVISION 1	CLYDEBANK	RAITH	54
	DUNDEE	FORFAR	55

† BEAZER HOMES LEAGUE PREMIER DIVISION

* Winning match numbers and supplementary number.

RESULTS AND DIVIDEND HOTLINES

Phone: 00555 0787 Australia Wide. Or, Sydney (02) 11520; Melbourne (03) 11521; Brisbane (07) 11699; Adelaide (08) 11521; Perth (09) 11520.

Results are available from 8pm. Sundays, dividends after 5pm Mondays.

Get your Pools in!

It takes only six numbers to win.

MATCH RESULTS

WEEK 280
SAT. 8th DECEMBER, 1990

ASTON VILLA	MAN CITY	1	2-0
CHELSEA	CRYSTAL PALACE	2	2-1
EVERTON	COVENTRY	3	1-0
LUTON	ARSENAL	4	1-1
MAN.UNITED	LEEDS	5	1-1
NORWICH	SOUTHAMPTON	6	3-1
NOTT.F.	LIVERPOOL	7	0-2
SHEFF. UTD.	DERBY	8	0-0
TOTTENHAM	SUNDERLAND	9	3-3*
WIMBLEDON	Q.P.R.	10	3-0
BARNLEY	BRISTOL R.	11	1-1*
BRISTOL CITY	SHEFF. WED.	12	1-1*
CHARLTON	NOTTS COUNT.	13	2-0
HULL	BLACKBURN	14	3-1
IPSWICH	SWINDON	15	1-1*
LEICESTER	OLDHAM	16	1-1*
MIDDLESBRO	WEST BROM.	17	2-0
NEWCASTLE	BRIGHTON	18	2-0
OXFORD UTD.	MILLWALL	19	0-2
PORTSMOUTH	WEST HAM	20	0-1
WATFORD	PLYMOUTH	21	2-0
WOLVES	PORT VALE	22	2-0
ALDERSHOT	MAIDSTONE	23	2-1
CHESTERFIELD	BOLTON	24	1-1*
HUDDERSFIELD	BLACKPOOL	25	2-0
ROTHERHAM	HALIFAX	26	2-0
SWANSEA	WALSALL	27	2-1
WIGAN A.	HARTLEPOOL	28	2-0
BANGOR	SHEPshed	29	0-0
BISHOP AUK.	MARINE	30	0-2
DROYLSDEN	HYDE	31	0-2
FLEETWOOD	GAINSBOROUGH	32	2-0
FRICKLEY A	SOUTHPORT	33	2-0
BURTON A	GLOUCESTER	34	2-0
CAMBRIDGE C	WEALDSTONE	35	2-0
CRAWLEY	DARTFORD	36	2-2*
DOVER	MOOR GREEN	37	2-0
GREENSBORO	HALSOWEN	38	0-2



THE POOLS RESULTS HISTORY AT 3/12/90 — WEEK 279

NO. OF TIMES EACH NUMBER OCCURRED									NO. OF WEEKS SINCE EACH NUMBER OCCURRED																					
1	31	35	3	42	4	21	5	35	6	51	7	37	8	53	1	1	2	13	3	11	4	2	5	5	6	0	7	4	8	1
9	47	60	56	59	12	59	50	14	55	15	50	16			9	11	10	8	11	1	12	3	13	7	14	0	15	0	16	0
17	57	49	40	40	57	53	22	53	26	23	56	24	52		17	4	18	1	19	0	20	5	21	1	22	6	23	3	24	1
25	52	58	57	56	65	69	30	59	32						25	26	27	28	29	30	31	32	0							
33	59	69	63	73	57	59									33	34	35	36	37	38										

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

Results History is from Week 38, the start of Six from 38 Pools

RESULTS OF WEEK 280 SAT 8 DECEMBER, 1990

Winning Match Numbers (in numerical order):
9, 12, 15, 16, 24, 36.
Supplementary Number: 11.

English division one															Scottish division one												
Chelsea	2	Crystal Palace	1												Airdrieonians	18	10	3	5	38	25	22					
Everton	1	Coventry	0												Dundee	18	9	5	4	28	18	25					
Luton	1	Arsenal	1												Raith	18	8	7	3	29	21	23					
Manchester United	1	Leeds	1												Hamilton	19	9	5	4	22	15	23					
Norwich	1	Southampton	1												Falkirk	17	9	4	4	35	19	22					
Tottenham	3	Sunderland	3												Clydebank	18	8	4	6	34	21	20					
Wimbledon	3	Queen's Park Rangers	0												Partick	18	8	4	23	24	20						
English division two															Scottish division two												
Bristol City	1	Sheff Wednesday	1												Horton	18	7	5	6	27	27	19					
Hull	3	Blackburn	1												Ayr	18	4	6	8	21	20	14					
Leeds	1	Swinton	1												Forfar	17	3	6	9	25	21	12					
Portsmouth	0	West Ham	1												Brechin	17	2	4	10	27	41	10					
Watford	2	Flymouth	0												Clyde	18	1	4	13	17	28	6					
Scottish premier division															Scottish division one												
Dundee United	1	Celtic	1												Stirling	18	10	7	1	22	12	27					
Hearts	1	Aberdeen	0												Stirling	17	8	5	4	32	23	21					
Rangers	4	St Johnstone	0												Queen's Park	17	9	3	5	23	14	21					
Scottish division one															Scottish division two												
Airdrieonians	2	Clyde	2												East Fife	17	8	5	4	28	20	21					
Kilmarnock	0	Dundee	1												Perth	18	9	5	4	26	25	21					
Headhunting	0	Clydebank	1												Coventry	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Partick	2	Morton	2												Alloa	17	7	3	7	25	19	17					
Raith	3	Ayr	0												Stranraer	17	8	1	8	26	27	17					
Scottish division two															English division one												
Brechin	1	Stirling	1												Barnsley	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Scottish FA Cup first round															English division two												
Broughton	1	Stirling	1												Leicester	17	9	3	5	23	14	21					
Scottish FA Cup first round															English division two												
East Stirling	1	Queen of the South	3												Middlesbrough	17	8	5	4	28	20	21					
Fraserburgh	1	Valley of Leithen	1												Newcastle	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Rose County	3	Alloa	1												Nottingham Forest	18	9	5	4	28	18	25					
English Football Association (FA) Cup second round															English division two												
Aldershot	2	Halstead	1												Barnsley	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Barnet	0	Northampton	0												Leicester	17	9	3	5	23	14	21					
English division one															English division two												
Liverpool	15	12	2	1	32	12	38								Barnsley	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Arsenal	16	11	5	0	31	7	36								Leicester	17	9	3	5	23	14	21					
Tottenham	16	8	6	2	30	17	30								Middlesbrough	17	8	5	4	28	20	21					
Crystal Palace	16	8	6	2	25	17	30								Newcastle	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Leeds	16	7	6	3	26	17	27								Oxford	17	7	5	5	20	22	28					
Wimbledon	16	6	4	4	25	21	24								Molverhampton	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Manchester United	16	7	5	2	28	21	22								English Football Association (FA) Cup second round												
Manchester City	15	5	8	2	24	21	23								Chesterfield	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Chelsea	16	6	5	5	24	26	23								Middlesbrough	17	8	5	4	28	20	21					
Norwich	16	6	2	8	21	27	20								Huddersfield	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Luton	16	5	5	6	19	26	20								Rotherham	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Nottingham Forest	15	4	6	5	20	21	18								HFS Loans League premier division												
Aston Villa	15	4	5	6	16	17	17								Bangor City	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Derby	15	4	7	12	22	16	16								Bishop Auckland	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Everton	16	3	6	7	19	21	15								Fleetwood	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Sunderland	16	3	6	7	19	24	15								Frickley	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Southampton	16	4	5	9	21	31	15								Beaver House League premier division												
Coventry	16	3	4	9	13	20	12								Burton	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Queen's Park Rangers	16	3	3	10	20	32	12								Dover	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Sheff Wednesday	15	0	4	11	7	28	4								Farborough	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
English division two															Scottish premier division												
West Ham	20	13	7	0	33	12	46								Dumfries	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Oldham	19	12	5	2	28	18	41								Motherwell	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Sheff Wednesday	19	10	7	2	28	20	37								Scottish division one												
Middlesbrough	19	11	3	5	26	16	36								Brechin	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Molverhampton	19	7	8	4	29	20	29								Forfar	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Millwall	17	7	7	5	30	22	28								Scottish FA Cup first round												
Notts City	17	7	6	6	27	21	27								Montrose	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Barnsley	17	6	8	5	28	21	26								Scottish division two												
Ipwich	20	6	8	6	25	30	26								Dumfries	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Bristol Rovers	18	7	4	7	25	23	25								Motherwell	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Port Vale	18	7	4	8	30	30	25								Scottish division one												
Bristol City	18	7	4	7	27	29	25								Brechin	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Brighton	18	7	4	7	29	38	25								Forfar	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
West Bromwich	17	5	7	7	25	28	22								Scottish FA Cup first round												
Swindon	20	5	7	8	25	30	22								Montrose	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Blackburn	20	6	4	10	24	30	22								Scottish division two												
Plymouth	20	5	7	8	22	30	22								Dumfries	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Newcastle	18	5	6	7	20	22	21								Motherwell	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Hull	20	5	6	9	33	49	21								Scottish division one												
Leicester	17	6	3	10	29	45	21								Brechin	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Charlton	19	5	5	9	24	29	20								Forfar	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Portsmouth	20	5	5	10	23	35	20								Scottish FA Cup first round												
Oxford	19	4	7	8	29	38	17								Montrose	17	8	2	7	26	26	18					
Watford	20	3	6	11	16	28	15								Scottish division two												

To sign or not to sign . . .

Saints undecided over Krslovic replacement

BY TED SIMMONS of AAP

ST GEORGE will probably delay for two more weeks a decision on whether to seek a replacement for National Soccer League striker Tony Krslovic.

The club sold Krslovic to Sydney Croatia last Friday week for \$35,000 and the big striker scored both goals for his new club in its 2-1 win over Apia Leichhardt.

St George lost 1-0 to Adelaide City in injury time in its game.

"If we pick up points in the next few weeks and have a chance to make the top five, we'll spend money looking for a new striker," said St George

managing director Tony Balazsi.

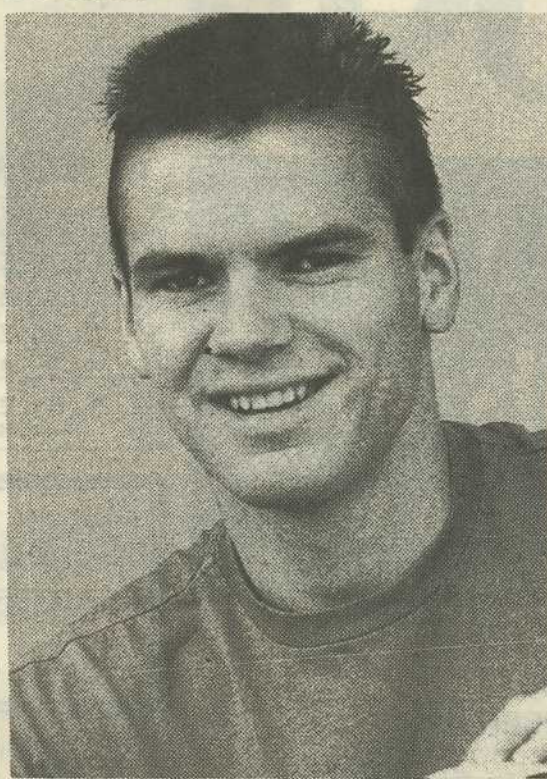
"But if the points don't come, then we'll stay with our current players and use the money on the stadium and our youth and apprentice teams to build up for next year."

St George under 19 are leading the NSL Youth League competition while the apprentices team is mid-table in its first year in the competition.

The teams have scored more than 30 goals between them after seven rounds.

Balazsi said he believed the timing was right for the sale of Krslovic.

"He has hardly touched the ball in his last few games and maybe his



TONY KRSLOVIC

heart wasn't in it," he said.

"He came from Sydney Croatia and has now returned to his old club."

Balazsi said St George planned to extend the apprentices scheme by introducing training for players from the age of nine.

At present, the scheme operates only for players aged 15 or those younger with exceptional talent.

"Most of the present intake were very raw when they came into the

club and in many cases it could take more than a year to change," he said.

"If we can get them at an earlier age, by the time they reach 15 they will be ready for the apprentices school and will be playing the style we want."

"Soccer will be much better in the future in this area under the system."

"It was a calculated risk to sell Krslovic but I think the club and the area will gain the biggest benefit."

Blow to Tapai's 'Roo ambitions

IT will be a long hard road back for Soccerroo midfielder Ernie Tapai if he wants to play for Australia in the big international next June against England.

Tapai last week underwent achilles tendon surgery in a Melbourne hospital after damaging his right ankle in the National League match against St George.

He is expected to leave hospital on Thursday and have his ankle in plaster for up to five weeks.

Tapai was one of the star players with his speed and aggression in the President's Cup tournament won by Australia in Jakarta last August.

"The game against England was one of the first things that crossed my mind as soon as I felt the ankle go," he said.

"Hopefully I will be able to play the last few league games and in finals for my new club Adelaide City and regain enough form to justify selection against England."

Tapai, who cost City



ERNIE TAPAI

\$30,000 in October, has scored three goals in six matches and has been instrumental in City's recent climb towards the NSL top five.

JOE BISKIC DECIDES TO LEAVE AUSTRALIA

BY PAUL KLARIC of AAP

MELBOURNE Croatia captain and midfielder Joe Biskic is likely to return to Croatia at the end of the current National Soccer League season in May because of family reasons.

Biskic, 31, believes he could play another season or two of NSL soccer but recently his younger brother was killed in a car accident and now his father is seriously ill with cancer.

Biskic said he would like to be closer to his mother in his home town of Babina Greda, about 250 kilometres west of Zagreb, and would consider looking for local clubs or in Austria or Switzerland to continue his playing career.

"I've been here for nine years and although it's been an unforgettable experience other things have arisen," he said.

"It's also time to allow the younger players at the club the room to come through and establish their places in the team."

Biskic, a former player with Croatian First Division side Osijek and Second Division BSK Slavonski Brod in the late 70s and early 80s, came to Melbourne Croatia in 1981 and has won the club's best and fairest award twice.

He has been captain for the past three seasons but does not expect any negative criticism from Melbourne Croatia supporters or committee members if he decides to leave.

"I think everyone here would understand the predicament I am in and my feelings about it," he said.



JOE BISKIC

out it," he said.

"It will not be an easy decision to make and I hope everybody respects that."

Biskic said the team was well-placed to win its first NSL championship.

ship.

"We have a definite chance but it will take a big effort from everyone including the supporters to lift us to that," he said.

FARINA SURGERY

FRANK Farina will be out of action for at least six weeks after undergoing surgery to repair cartilage trouble which has plagued him since colliding with the AC Milan goalkeeper in the second leg of the European Champions' Cup Round 2 game on November 7.



FRANK FARINA

"I kept having to have fluid taken from the knee and I played with injections ever since that injury," the 26-year-old Soccerroo said last week.

"I will have a possible re-education period for three weeks. Then I'll just have to see how it goes."

"But it's not a serious problem. I hope to be fit by mid-January."

Farina is lucky insofar that the Belgian league goes into recess next weekend and resumes on January 12.

With today's advanced surgery and therapeutic techniques, if all goes well Farina should be back in the FC Brugge line-up one or two weeks after the league resumes.

Farina won't be flying to Australia during the break.

With five goals so far, Frank appears to have no chance of equalling his 1989/90 tally of 24 before his contract expires at end of the current season.

He seems certain to pursue his career in Italy.

Oceania's Dempsey backs Asian bid



CHARLIE DEMPSEY

OCEANIA Football Confederation president Charlie Dempsey says he would support moves for Oceania teams to qualify for the World Cup finals through Asia again.

Changes to qualifying rounds for the World Cup were floated by FIFA president Joao Havelange last week, and among them was Asia's finals quota being raised to three teams, and Oceania teams — minus Israel — playing in Asian groups.

Israel would play qualifiers in a European group.

The scheme would also see Africa, the North and Central American zones with three qualifiers each.

Asia would have two automatic qualifiers with the third placed team playing off with European or South American

nation. The winner of the Oceania group, with eight members the smallest of FIFA's six regions, currently has to play off against a European or South American nation to make it to the finals.

Dempsey said that although the scheme was just an idea at the moment but he would support it if it came to a vote.

Australia qualified for the 1974 finals in West Germany and New Zealand made it to the 1982 finals in Spain.

Since 1982 the Oceania group winner has faced a play-off for a final spot.

Australia won the group for the 1986 finals but lost a close series to Scotland, while Israel missed out on this year's finals in Italy when they lost to Colombia.

Colombia were good enough to reach the Cup's last eight.

Brazilian Football Academy.



THE Brazilian Football Academy run by Professor Espezim Neto is another activity in South America we should get closer to.

Australian director of coaching Mike Wells, who has completed courses at the academy, would be the ideal person to get further details for any Australian coaches interested in the huge range of courses available in Brazil.

Neto, Brazilian Football Academy, Rua Paraim 287, Ilha Governador, CEP 21911, Rio, Brazil.

The courses are devoted to people from Africa, the Caribbean and Asia, and are held in English with lectures by many of the famous coaches, players and administrators in Brazil.

All details re travel, accommodation, tourist activities, attendance



MIKE WELLS

They may also make contact by writing to Professor Espezim

at local game, training sessions etc are fully organised.

Big highlight tape by Aerolineas Argentinas prepared for juniors

AEROLINEAS Argentinas, substantially involved in organising the Joeys trip, will be producing a 60 minute highlight package on the tour.



It will include games played, the social activities, training, tourist activities, the clubs' profiles and a host of other information.

The highlight tape

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will be available to junior and senior clubs who are interested in going to South America, and will be a sample of what prospective teams can expect in South America.

REGIONAL NEWS

ASW is always keen to publish some stories and pictures from main regional centres throughout Australia.

Publicity officers, here is the chance to make your district wider known in the game.

Address material to ASW, PO Box 406, Broadway 2007.

JOHNNY WARREN HAS HIS SAY

Aussie links with South America vital



The Joeys at Sydney Airport before flying to South America.

THE Joeys' historic visit to South America will, hopefully, be the first of many Australian teams to visit this footballing mad continent.

Like many first trips there were some difficulties, especially with language and different customs, but weighed against the positives the Australian boys can only benefit from what has been an unique experience for local players.

I spent 10 days of the three week visit with the Joeys, and can only look on in envy at the marvellous opportunity afforded Australian players at such a tender age.

The hospitality in South America was quite fantastic — especially in Chile where the host club, Universidad Catolica, bent over backwards to provide the touring party with typical South American hospitality.

The Joeys trained at Universidad's splendid sporting complex at the foot of the Andes, where their stadium, training facilities and accommodation are centred.

They were VIP guests at both Catolica's and Colo Colo's home games, Catolica even taking them into their team's dressing room after their derby match against Universidad Chile (crowd 62000) at the Nacional Stadium.

At Colo Colo's impressive new stadium they played the early match against the Chilean national team before the first division match between Colo

Colo and Union Espana, and were again awarded VIP status.

In Vina del Mar, scene of their second international against Chile, the Wanderers club put on a super post match dinner at

the world famous Vina del Mar casino.

But it was on the field that the Joeys benefited most.

Make no mistake, the Chilean side they beat twice — 3-2 and 2-0 — was a first class

youth team.

Their individual skill and style of play was at times great stuff and the fact that the Aussies, outplayed for a big proportion of both outings, could go on and win was a credit to their individual and

collective character.

It has been a long held theory of mine that we have to turn our attention more and more to South America.

We have more to learn from them, and, in current economic times, it is more likely we can develop a relationship with them at all levels than the more expensive European nations.

Hopefully the Joeys will start the relationship going for the betterment of our game.

Already the AIS will visit Chile next year — as guests of Universidad Catolica.

Eddie Thomson, overwhelmed with what he saw on and off the pitch in Chile, is talking about the Olympic Games team preparing for their elimination matches at Catolica's splendid set up.

Catolica impressed Thomson.

ALONG with Eddie Thomson and Aerolineas Argentina man Jaime Gomez, I was special guest at a boardroom function hosted by Universidad Catolica.

Our hosts were football president Cristian Lyon Sanfuentes, club director Samuel Vine Hill and football secretary Hugo Arias Bezares.

Catolica is much more than a football team.

It is the wealthiest club in Chile, boasting three sporting complexes in Santiago.

The stadium is at the foot of the Andes out of town, a super sport complex is in the city and an office block downtown.

Like most South American clubs, Catolica is a total sports club with huge membership (fees are \$7000 a year).

Football happens to be the major sport, taking 60% or \$4 million of its entire budget.

Top players at Catolica earn \$200,000 a season, with full accommodation and car provided.

Catolica are more than interested in developing a close re-



EDDIE THOMSON

lationship with Australia and are keen to visit next June/July in the seasonal gap when the South American

championships will be hosted by Chile.

As Eddie Thomson would agree, the ASF

could do a lot worse than formalise a closer relationship with this impressive Chilean club.

Marconi Fairfield is the club of the Nineties

WRITES MELBOURNE ADMIRER
FROM AFAR, TONY ABATE

AROUND the world every soccer nation has a club which is generally deemed the most famous, both in terms of honours and professionalism.

Italy has Juventus, Spain has Real Madrid, England has Liverpool, Brazil has Santos.

Australia has Marconi Fairfield.

Critics would perhaps say that there are simply no comparisons between a club such as Real Madrid and Marconi.

Yet I would contend there are parallels.

Very much like its European counterparts, Marconi has a great degree of 'professionalism' within its ranks.

Two out of the last three National Soccer League titles indicate that everyone from a Marconi social club member to on field player has an interest in maintaining Marconi's dominance at the domestic level.

The cornerstone of Marconi's rise to prominence has been its capable administration.

Additionally, a big social club membership, fostered by the local Italian residents, coupled with high level profit from the poker machines and reception facilities make Marconi Soccer Club one of the richest in the land.

Given this and a strong supporter base, coach Berti Mariani has been encouraged to assemble one of the strongest sides around to follow his forward thinking ideas on the park.

In many ways his philosophy can be seen as simple: each member of his team must be adaptable to changing circumstances and play in various positions — a characteristic which is common among all the top sides around the world.

Very much in the Liverpool tradition where coaches are recruited from the local ranks, Mariani is helping to build a legacy which shows that heights can be reached by those who are willing to learn from the best.



FRED DE JONG

proven he has what it takes for the job.

In addition to this, as one of the country's most forward thinking clubs, Marconi has also got a youth policy which not only is aimed at teenagers, but also young school children.

In the last few years the club has worked in tandem with local schools in trying to promote the game.

It is hoped that such a program will produce at least a handful of good players who could perform for the club at the highest standard.

At worst, it could have the positive effect of generating extra enthusiasm to increase future attendances and gate receipts.

Marconi have also

shown themselves to be shrewd players of the transfer market.

After losing first team players like versatile defender Gary van Egmond to Roda JC and striker Fred de Jong to Fortuna Sittard of Holland, the club made some intelligent recruiting moves to bolster its squad of players.

Mark Jones from Sydney Croatia is more than capable of filling a defensive position whilst he is equally at home playing the role of the defensive midfielder, a role often undertaken by Gerry Gomez, who departed during the close season to Apia Leichhardt.

On the attacking side of things, there

CONTINUED ON
PAGE 11

THERE is a general saying in life which contends that "sometimes the truth hurts."

I believe, in the following case, that the saying is certainly accurate.

Most people are completely aware that Australia is a haven for a wide range of sports.

The traditional favourites like cricket, Australian rules, tennis, golf and rugby league have boomed over the last few years.

In more recent times, basketball has been labelled the game of the 80s, whilst some may believe baseball will follow the same path in the 1990s.

This is all very well for sports enthusiasts in general, however where does that leave you and I, the very keen soccer followers?

Whilst NSL matches are consistently attracting relatively modest crowds in comparison to other mainline sports, it is becoming abundantly clear that if Australian soccer doesn't market itself properly in the next ten years, it could end up a fringe sport in this country.

Soccer in this country is clearly in a Catch-22 position.

Whilst the ethnic flavour behind most clubs has allowed soccer to grow, it has also hindered the game's progress.

Of course this is not to say that one should underestimate how much of a positive impact people from other countries have had on Australian soccer.

It would be naive to think that the NSL would function any better without the considerable ethnic support generated by clubs like Marconi, Sydney Olympic, South Melbourne Hellas and Melbourne Croatia.

One can also appreciate that soccer

clubs in Australia are more than their names suggest.

In a multicultural society such as ours, they are also bastions of preserving cultures and values from overseas countries.

Perhaps this is a unique facet of our game.

Cultural pluralism has many very fine aspects.

However, if we are to catch up to the other sporting codes the apparent ethnic barriers must be dropped in order to make the game appeal to other sections of Australian society.

This is not to say clubs should abandon their ethnic roots.

By the same token however, they should also increase their efforts to market themselves as 'commodities' which can be used by all.

In other words, soccer football can no longer afford to insulate itself in this country for the enjoyment of a selected few.

If it wants to grow, it must have mass appeal.

The groundwork is being laid on the field; now our efforts must be projected towards the turnstiles.

A more financially viable National League may mean that we won't lose as many of our better players as we do now.

There is no doubt that the NSL competition is much the poorer after losing players like Eddie Krncevic, Frank



EDDIE KRNCVIC

Farina, Vlado Bozinovski, Jason Polak, Chris Kalantzis, Jim Patikas, Graham Arnold, Zlatko Arambasic and a whole host to overseas clubs.

The message is clear — bigger crowds mean more money; greater financial resources in turn mean that there will be more funds to expand our game.

The greatest boost would have to come at the post youth level.

Our youth teams occupy a highly respected position in world football; however it is no secret that our youngsters begin to lose touch after this level.

In recent matches, the Australian youth team beat their admittedly more skilful Chilean counterparts 3-2 and 2-0.

I dare say such a result could often not be achieved at senior level, simply because of the differences be-

tween the two countries at the domestic level.

The ethnic component of Australian soccer should never be underestimated.

It holds a very unique place in Australian soccer history, and is by no means a redundant aspect of our game.

But as soccer supporters we must look to the future.

An NSL competition which goes beyond ethnic boundaries and eliminates the sometimes evident 'wog sport' ethos will ensure that the game progresses to a new level.

It must be realised once and for all that greater crowds from a cross-section of the community will have a positive snowballing effect, generating funds, sponsorship and media support which can't be obtained under the pressure climate.

What's in a name?

BY GREG BLAKE

From the strange and unusual nicknames department comes a selection from Melbourne's NSL clubs, each and all of them sure to amuse and confuse.

South Melbourne's Mike Petersen comes close to snagging first prize.

Mickey P. has been dubbed 'crab' by his teammates for his penchant for always going sideways.

Some other unusual offerings from Middle Park include: 'Weasel' (David Healy), 'Handbrake' (Harry Micheil) and, as if you couldn't guess, 'Alphabet' (Michael Michalakopoulos).

Melbourne Croatia's Alan Davidson might be 'Davo' to the general public but to his team mates he is either 'bear' or the newly coined 'Radar'.

Melbourne Croatia leads the way in the strange and unusual nicknames stakes.

Paul Donnelly is 'Soldier', Mark Talajic 'beast', George Hannah 'Hannovic' and Andy Marth has been dubbed 'stabber'.

But ask them about Ivan Duzel's nickname and no-one is willing to divulge the reason for him being dubbed 'Slammer'.

ASW experts are on the trail of the origins of this one and will report back in due course.

Heidelberg isn't hot in the nickname department with a humdrum selection of Gazza's and Stu's to report on.

Jeff Olver's facial growth has earned him the title of 'Walrus', while Angie Goutzoulis is 'Shaggy'.

Could someone please explain 'Donner', otherwise known as Phil Stubbins?

Sunshine George Cross boasts a 'Handbrake', in the guise of Chris Ketsakidis.

Paul Foster is 'Fos-

sie', Gary Hasler has become 'GI', Craig Foster is 'junior' and Damian Mori is known as 'Frog'.

The always up-market John Waddell is the pick of the picks at Skinner Reserve.

The lanky defender has been dubbed 'showbag'.

Preston Makedonia also boasts some curious offerings with Oscar Crino worst off having to wear the alternate tags of 'Big O', 'Oki' and 'Gilligan'.

Lou Bekiaris is 'motorbike', Robbie Markovac is known as 'Ginge', Georgie Petrov has become 'Peder', Warren Spink is 'Sid' and Zoran Tacevski is 'Chiko'.

Phil Traianedes earns the pick of the bunch at Preston. The Connor Reserve custodian is now known as 'File' following an Adelaide newspaper report which managed to turn Phil into Phyle some months ago.

VICTORIAN SOCCER FEDERATION



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Victorian Soccer Federation,
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Y — DECEMBER 10, 1990

Tasmania thumbs nose at ASF

BY WALTER PLESS

THE Tasmanian Soccer Federation has thrown down the gauntlet to the Australian Soccer Federation by signing a five-year sponsorship deal with cigarette manufacturer Rothmans of Pall Mall.

The move violates the arrangement established in 1988 between the ASF and the state bodies in which sponsorship by cigarette companies was banned.



The ASF dropped tobacco sponsorship in exchange for equal funding through QUIT, a division of the Victorian health Promotion Foundation.

The president of the Tasmanian Soccer Federation, Mr Roy Stoneman, stated that the deal with Rothmans had become necessary because Tasmania had never really been adequately compensated by QUIT or the ASF since Tasmania had broken its links with Rothmans in 1988.

The new sponsorship agreement, which was signed last Tuesday, is believed to be worth \$500,000 over five years, making it easily the largest sponsorship deal ever for Tasmania, whose competition will be known as the Winfield State League.

It is hoped that the former major sponsor of soccer in Tasmania, chocolate manufacturer Cadbury, will retain its links with the sport by sponsoring the Southern Tasmanian regional competition.

For the past two years, the State-wide league has been known as the Cadbury State League, and the confectionery manufacturer, which has a factory in the Hobart suburb of Claremont, has also sponsored the annual Cadbury charity trophy and the Cadbury jubilee trophy.

Following a meeting of ASF commissioners in Sydney on Thursday, the ASF has threatened to disaffiliate the TSF, a move which has so far failed to panic the Tasmanians.

The feeling at TSF headquarters at Soccer House in Glenorchy



seems to be that Tasmania is the forgotten State anyway, and not much will be lost.

Tasmania does not receive very much financial benefit from the ASF and few visiting teams from overseas or interstate play matches in Hobart.

The only area where disaffiliation may hurt is at under-age level, if Tasmania, for example, is not permitted to participate in youth championships or talent identification tournaments.

Mr Stoneman and his committee believe the TSF had little choice but to sign the deal with Rothmans as the game in Tasmania is desperate for sponsorship dollars and no other benefactors with the right amount of money were forthcoming.

TSF general manager, Mr Gordon Jablonski, said some other State federations sympathised with Tasmania because they also had not received what was promised to them since terminating their association with tobacco companies.

Jablonski also criticised the ASF for its handling of the issue, claiming the national body had taken its threats to the press

without even notifying the TSF of the intended course of action.

The sponsorship deal has caused controversy even outside sporting circles in Tasmania.

Dr Gerry Dates, the Green independent member for Franklin in Tasmania's House of Assembly, condemned the sponsorship deal and urged parents to stop their children from playing soccer.

He also called on supporters and players to boycott the game.

Dr Bates claimed most of the sponsorship money would be spent on administrative costs and challenged the TSF to outline how and where the money would be spent.



The TSF has consistently refused to do this. Neither the TSF nor Rothmans, have explained precise details of the deal.

Mr John White, the Tasmanian Minister for Health, and the president of the Tasmanian Branch of the Australian Medical Association, Dr Brendan Nelson, have also slammed the sponsorship deal.

As far as the TSF is concerned, the criticism has been like water off a duck's back. The

Federation is adamant that it had no alternative but to seek sponsorship from Rothmans if soccer in Tasmania was to survive.

Mr Jablonski said that, although Tasmania was receiving \$20,000 a year from QUIT, it was not enough for the game to function.

Mr Jablonski said between 80 and 90 per cent of telephone calls received at Soccer House in relation to the issue supported the TSF's action.

Jablonski speaks out...

Tasmania sits put

BY GRAHAM COOKE



TASMANIA soccer's decision to quit Quit was irreversible, according to the island's governing body for the sport, Gordon Jablonski, said on Friday.

And the reason it has turned to tobacco giant Rothmans — "a supporter of Tasmanian soccer for 20 years" — for sponsorship dollars is disappointment with the Victorian Health Promotion Foundation's performance in this area.

"We have waited two years and our assessment is

that the Quit Campaign has not adequately replaced the sponsorship which we had from Rothmans in the past," he said, speaking from the Tasmanian Soccer Federation's Hobart office.

"We have been in constant contact with the campaign over those two years and have been unable to solve the problems.

"The Rothmans agreement is for five years and we will not be going back on it."

The deal, part of which will help support the full-time positions of state director of coaching and general manager, will help bring stability to Tasmanian soccer, he said.

"The state league will be re-named the Winfield State League and we will be re-introducing the Rothmans Gold Medal for the best and fairest player in the league."

Asked what the Tasmanian federation might do if faced with suspension from the Australian Soccer Federation, Jablonski said: "I'm afraid I will have to give you the politician's answer — we will cross that bridge when we come to it."

The move has drawn condemnation from the Tasmanian branch of the Medical Association, whose president, Dr Brendan Nelson, described it as appalling.

"It would seem for the officials of the Tasmanian

Soccer Federation that the game is more important than life and health itself," he said.

"The acceptance of his money will effectively gag (soccer) sporting personalities who might otherwise be logical and willing supporters of the health education campaigns being run by the Tasmanian Government and the medical profession."

And while the Australian Soccer Federation commissioners have done no more than threaten Tasmania with suspension, it is likely they will move decisively before Christmas should the Tasmanian Federation refuse to renounce its new sponsorship.

Speaking from Sydney, ASF chairman John Constantine said suspension could affect Tasmanian entry in age-group national titles.

Plans, under the Bradley Report recommendations, to later bring a team from Hobart into the National League would be shelved.

There are pressures from other areas that might force the commissioners into a tough stand. At least one other state, dissatisfied with the level of Quit Campaign sponsorship, is claimed to be seriously considering a tobacco deal.

Anything less than a crushing response to the Tasmanian stand might tempt it and others to chase the cigarette dollar.

[In response ASF general manager Alan Vessey said: "Under the circumstances of Quit sponsorship of Australian soccer, I believe Tasmania has been offered a greater sum than they could ever expect to get in the market."]

AUSTRALIA'S LARGEST SPORTING BODY ENDORSES BAN ON TOBACCO ADVERTISING

At its Annual General Meeting on Saturday November 24, 1990, the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation, Australia's largest single sport state body, voted unanimously to ban all forms of tobacco advertising on the playing shirts worn by any player registered with the Federation.

With over 100,000 members, 30% of which are over 14 and therefore "of smoking age", this is seen as a strong stand by responsible administrators on behalf of their members in spite of the lure of the sponsorship dollar that tobacco advertising brings.

Many of these clubs can ill afford to refuse sponsorship but are prepared to do so because they recognise that the health and well being of their players is more important.

It is ironic however that, by taking this stand, they are ruling out the possibility of sponsorship by anti-smoking organisations who have been "buying out" tobacco sponsorship in various sports in most States in Australia.

Perhaps one day responsible administrators will also be rewarded particularly where their action directly affects such a large group, most of which are at the age where a "good example set" will have the greatest effect.

The NSW Amateur decision follows the Australian Soccer Federation move to suspend the Tasmanian Soccer Federation until it ends its sponsorship with tobacco firm, Rothmans.

Cec Buccello General Manager

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 10

are few better strikers than David Seal, who came from Sydney Croatia as last season's top NSL scorer.

The other major signing, John Markovski from Melbourne Croatia, adds more diversity to the side's attacking line with the ability to play either in a striker or attacking midfield position.

The rest of the team also looks the goods.

Apart from the evergreen Zlatko Nastevski, there is no player over thirty in the squad.

Add to that a good array of Socceroo experience all over the line-up.

Not only do you have a side which is a good blend of youth and experience, but also one brim full with high class talent.

In defence Steve Calderan, Jean Paul De Marigny, Ian Gray, and Robert Wheatley have all been involved with the Australian national

squad in some capacity.

In midfield, Peter Katholos and Tom McCulloch have both received Socceroo honours, whilst in attack John Markovski and Zlatko Nastevski have also worn the green and gold shirt as well.

Despite what one may believe as a supporter from another club, I contend Marconi are the best soccer establishment in Australia in every sense of the word.

Very much like the Liverpools and Real Madrids of this world, Marconi Fairfield are a footballing entity with solid financial resources.

Their considerable following and profitable business operations ensure that they will be over the coming decade, the yardstick of by which other Australian soccer clubs may be judged in the areas of administration, ground, player capacity, public relations and junior development.



Wollongong Macedonia defender Darren Wilson goes high for a header at Brandon Park.

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Australian
Soccer
Weekly

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THE WORLD'S LEADING FOOTBALL SUPPORTER

BY GEORGE VAN ZANDEN

TODAY I sent a Christmas card to Cyril Johnny Smith — the world's number one football fan.

Johnny lost the use of his legs when he was a kid, and for 36 years he has been dragging himself along to the football grounds around Durban, South Africa.

It takes him one hour to crawl to Durban's home ground.

Johnny has no problem with that.

It is the away games over 30 km which are hard for him.

He can crawl 5 km per hour at an average and on the long trips he has to leave early in the morning.

Johnny does not want motorists to give him a ride.

He is very independent, and, besides, he quite enjoys his trips to the soccer grounds.

The players and supporters have adopted him as their mascot.

When he finally crawls his way into the ground and on to the field they all chant: "Johnny, Johnny, Johnny."

He is treated like a king and the Manning Rangers manager Don Moodley said: "He is our best supporter, our club is proud of him and admire his guts."

Johnny has many privileges — one of them is sitting next to me on the manager's chair.

Last year the club bought him a wheelchair, but Johnny returned it.

Club members have also taken him to doctors seeking a cure for his ailment, but sadly nothing can be done.

But Johnny won't let his condition bring him down. He keeps his mind off it by living for the Manning Rangers.

During the week he works at a local supermarket minding shoppers' bags.

"Compared to others living in South Africa, I am well off," said Johnny.

"When I was a boy I saw Rangers play for the first time, and I never forget how well they played that day."

"I have been their greatest supporter ever since."

With a proud look on his face he adds: "Please don't let anyone worry about me."

"I am OK."

I think the least we can do is send him a Christmas card —

Johnny's address:

Cyril "Johnny" Smith, c/- Durban Manning Rangers, (Manager Don Moodley), DURBAN, SOUTH AFRICA.

Mike Wells plans for the future

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THE Australian Soccer Federation's new national director of coaching, Mike Wells, aims to forge an alliance which will push the world game to the forefront of the national sporting agenda.

Chief among his "allies" will be national coach Eddie Thomson, assistant Les Scheinflug and the ASF's new development officer, Steve Darby.

But he also includes the directors of coaching of every state.

It is a combination which he hopes will eventually reach out to touch the lives of every youngster who ever takes an interest in a sports field.

South Australian Wells is a realist, accepting that in the 1990s the traditional junior sports will have to fight harder for their share of players.

While the Aussie Sports program has been successful in introducing children to a wider range of activities, it has probably led to a decline in the popularity of team sports.

"We identified the problem in South Australia a few years ago," he said.

"Some of the schools in the older suburbs were having

trouble raising the numbers for one team."

One thing he would like to see is a uniform code of mini soccer throughout the country.

"I will be talking to Steve Darby about this. I believe it could attract a lot more kids — girls as well as boys."

He wants to see prominent players from the Quit National League paid to take soccer gospel into schools, "in much the same way Jeff Olver and Robbie Wheatley are doing in Victoria and NSW. As long as you select the right players with personalities the kids can relate to, you can make a great impact."

And he realises the impact the Australian Institute of Sport has on Australian soccer.

"Canberra was one of my first trips after I took up the job. The AIS is an important facility and needs to be used to the best advantage."



LES SCHEINFLUG



Sydney Croatia's Ivan Petkovic — having a tremendous season as a midfield grafter — comes thundering down on the ball. Photo by STEVEN GOSCH.

Joeys retain unbeaten tour record

The Australian Joeys turned out another great performance to remain unbeaten on their tour of South America.

The under 17 Aussies held the Universidad Catolica under 19s to a

2-2 draw in the Chilean capital of Santiago last Wednesday.

Australia's goal scorers were Alex Kirazoglou and Darren Iocca.

Universidad Catolica, one of Chile's most famous clubs, are renowned for the calibre of their youth players.

They provide several national team players at under 17 and 20 level and to have held older players to a draw away from home is another feather in the cap of the Aussie lads who have taken Chile by storm on this tour.

Well done, boys.

PRESTON'S SEE-SAW NSL RIDE SINCE 1983 —

season	position	finals scenario
1983	3rd	No finals series played
1984	6th (Sth Div)	
1985	5th (Sth Div)	Lost Sth Div. Grand Final to B. Juventus
1986	6th (Sth Div)	
1987	2nd	Lost Preliminary Final to Apia
1988	12th	
1989	4th	Lost Elimination Final to Melb. Croatia
1989/90	9th	

Preston Makedonia's junior programme

BY GREG BLAKE

PRESTON Makedonia is starting a new junior development programme by calling for teenage players to form a 'scholarship squad.'

Preston is keen to form at least one crack under 18 side by utilising local talent, and trials for players interested in trying out for the scholarship squad began on Saturday December 1 and Saturday December 8 at Connor Reserve in Broadhurst Avenue, Reservoir.

The trials, under the supervision of senior coach John Gardiner and senior NSL stars Warren Spink, George Jolevski, Oscar Crino, Chris Trajanovski and Steve Jackson, were held between 9am and 12 midday.

Contact can be made with the club if you missed out.

Although Preston already has a number of applications from local lads keen to try out for the club, it is keen to give the chance to as many



hopefuls as possible.

Youngsters who make the squad will then be nurtured by the club under the guidance of the senior coaching panel under what the club terms as a "type of apprenticeship."

The scholarship squad will train twice a day, three times a week during the season and Preston expects that a number of these players will go on to sign as seniors at age 18.

AUSTRALIA maintained its unbeaten run with a scoreless draw against Valparaiso Wanderers in the under 17 national soccer team tour of Chile last Sunday week.

The young Australians had won their opening games 1-0 against Gymnasia, 3-2 against Chile under 17s and 2-0 in the second match against Chile.

"After three wins and a draw, the team is starting to put it together," said team official Rod Woods from Santiago.

"We could easily have won today against Valparaiso but coach Les Scheinflug is trying to give each member of the squad a chance.

"In the two 'tests', Chile was surprised by the Australian strength and aggression, and despite the home team's better skills, the hard running and discipline of the Australians has been successful."

The tour is part of the preparation by the Australians for the Oceania World championship elimination games in New Zealand next month.

If Australia wins the qualifying group, it will travel to Ecuador for the finals in June.

Special Olympics produce top soccer

I had the great pleasure during last week of attending the National Championships of the Special Olympics.

The enthusiasm shown by the players and their helpers to the game of soccer had to be seen to be believed.

Also the skill level displayed by some of the teams, especially Queensland and New South Wales, was a treat to watch.

Talking about Queensland and New South Wales, they fought out the final with Queensland beating New South Wales 4-3.

I would also like to congratulate Stuart Cripps and Frank on their organisation of the tournament and for the way they made Paul Trimboli, Mike Petersen, Victorian director of coaching Tim White and myself feel so much at home.



MIKE PETERSEN

The Launch for the 'Drugs in Sport' program took place at Olympic Park on this Monday, December

JEFF OLVER COLUMN

UNTIL
NEXT
WEEK



KEEP
KNOCKING
THEM
IN



10.

In attendance were Federation Minister Peter Staples, VSF President John Dimtis, NSL's Sam Papasavas, George Wallace, VSF Executive Director, and many other dignitaries.

Also a Soccer Clinic

was conducted with Soccerroo players Paul Trimboli, Mike Petersen, Warren Spink, George Petrou and myself with the Director of Coaching, Tim White.

Two hundred school children participated in the day from schools



throughout the inner Melbourne suburbs.

NATIONAL SOCCER LEAGUE CUP QUARTER FINALS

NSL Cup holders South Melbourne Hellas will have to overcome a strong Sydney challenge if they are to hang on to the trophy.

Apia Leichhardt and Melita Eagles qualified for the semi-finals on Wednesday night, with the fourth semi spot to be filled by either Marconi or Preston, in a game to be played on Wednesday night.

The semi-finals, to be contested on Wednesday February 6, will feature South Melbourne Hellas and Parramatta Melita Eagles, and Apia Leichhardt meeting the winner of Marconi Fairfield and Preston Makedonia played on Wednesday night.

Attendances were truly catastrophic, with only the Melbourne quarter-final reaching the four-figure mark!

NSL CUP ROUND 2

APIA LEICHHARDT 3 (A Bundalo, B Maloney, T Lemezina) WOLLONGONG CITY 2 (I Cahut, M Blagojevic) at St George Stadium. Crowd: 525.

PARRA MELITA EAGLES 2 (G Gunning, G Brown) ADELAIDE CITY 1 (A Vidmar) at Melita Stadium. Crowd: 830.

SOUTH MELBOURNE HELLAS 2 (M Michalakopoulos, Healy) SUNSHINE GEORGE CROSS 0. Attendance: 2913 at Olympic Park, Melbourne.

NEXT WEDNESDAY
December 12

MARCONI v PRESTON MAKEDONIA
Marconi Stadium 7.30pm

SEMI-FINALS

WED FEBRUARY 6

Parra Melita v South Melbourne
Apia Leichhardt v Marconi or Preston

Cup holders South Melbourne on the track once again

PRESENT NSL Cup holders South Melbourne Hellas were right on target again as they swept away to a 2-0 win over Sunshine George Cross at Olympic Park on Wednesday night.

South set up a semi-final meeting with Parramatta Melita thanks to a devastating two goal second half against Sunshine.

After an evenly fought first half, young substitute Mike Michalakopoulos set South Melbourne on its way with a spectacular 20m goal on the run just 11 minutes into the second half.

It signalled the beginning of a classic Melbourne onslaught, and David Healy wrapped up the win with South Melbourne's second goal 21 minutes from full time.

Undermanned Sunshine had contested bravely for the opening 45 minutes and should have taken an early lead when a Lorenz Kindtner shot was parried by Bruce Maclaren, and a follow up header was smacked against the crossbar.



DANNY WRIGHT

But South Melbourne, led by a rejuvenated Danny Wright, took the lead early after the break as youngster Michalakopoulos celebrated his 21st birthday week

with his best goal in the Hellas colours.

Paul Trimboli spurned the chance to make it 2-0 when he put a penalty shot against the woodwork, after John Waddell was ruled to have handled a Mike Petersen shot in the area.

Healy secured Souths' place in the last four right at the end, when he put his team 2-0 ahead to confirm the victory for the reigning cup holders.



DAVID HEALY

Late Lemezina goal lifts Apia into Cup semi-finals

Apia Leichhardt 3 Wollongong City 2

APIA Leichhardt survived the loss of its goalkeeper and snatched a last minute goal for a 3-2 win over Wollongong City in the second round of the National Soccer League Cup at St George Stadium last week.

Keeper Brett Hughes was severely concussed and taken to hospital after being hit in the face with a point blank drive in the 33rd minute.

He was replaced by substitute Peter Murray, who kept his line clear for the remainder of the game.

Wollongong had led 2-1 at half time after goals from Ibro Cahut and an own goal by Apia defender Milan Blagojevic, but was unable to stop the last minute charge by Apia which produced two goals in the final 15 minutes after Cahut had been sent off one minute earlier.

Wollongong, supported by a fierce wind, made the early running and kept Apia pinned in a defensive role.

In the 15th minute Wollongong forced a corner and the kick by Mike Hollifield flew to the far post where Cahut rose unchallenged to head the opening goal.

Apia drew level three minutes later when Jeff Allport grounded an attacking Gerry Gomez in the penalty area and Alex Bundalo easily converted the spot kick.

The Wollongong raids became more frequent, assisted by huge clearance kicks from



GERRY GOMEZ

keeper George Bouhoutsos, and it was not surprising when Wollongong took a 33rd minute lead.

Midfielder Richard Lloyd worked the ball close to the goal where Blagojevic tried to clear and his shot crashed into Hughes'

face.

As the keeper fell, Graham Jennings and Blagojevic tried to reach the ball but could not stop it crossing the line.

Hughes was taken to hospital with concussion and his place in goals was filled by Murray.

Klaus Okon and John McQuarrie both missed goal attempts early in the second half and it took substitute Brad Maloney to level the scores in the 74th minute when he was left in the clear five metres from the Wollongong goal.

As the match seemed headed into extra time, an Apia corner in the final minute fell deep to Gomez, whose header hit Bouhoutsos and bounced back to striker Tony Lemezina, who crashed the ball into the back of the net to put Apia into the next round.

— from AAP

Adelaide City ousted from Cup

Melita Eagles 2
Adelaide City 1

Gunning instrumental in victory for Parra Melita

PARRAMATTA Melita shaded Adelaide City 2-1 in a tight and exciting National Soccer League Cup quarter final at Melita Stadium last Wednesday.

The game was a typical cup tie with a congested midfield but there were few incidents.

Adelaide started the scoring through winger Aurelio Vidmar, but Melita struck back in the second half through goals by Geoff Gunning and Greg Brown.

Washington Gonzalez played the general for Melita, and Robert Csoboth was in everything for Adelaide.

The break came in the 32nd minute when Adelaide striker Steve Maxwell lost his balance when he received a ball on the edge of the Melita box.

He found his feet, played the ball to running winger Aurelio Vidmar, and, with a certain goal in the offering, Gonzalez brought Vidmar down.

Referee Spiers quickly pointed to the penalty spot and Vidmar converted the kick to give Adelaide a 1-0 lead.



GREG BROWN

After the break Melita came streaming forward and two minutes into the half Geoff Gunning finished a set move with a diving header at the far post to level the score.

In the 69th minute Gunning charged like a tank through the Adelaide defence when keeper Robbie Zabica made a series of remarkable saves until Greg Brown scrapped the ball over the line.

"The first half we were thinking about

Marconi, our opponent this weekend, and in the second half we began to play Adelaide City," said acting Melita coach Roberto Viera.

"The first goal was pleasing as well, it is a set piece we have practised often."

Adelaide City boss Zoran Matic said they had six first grade players unavailable.

"We tried out some young prospects in their place but tonight we got nothing from it."

— from AAP

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Chit Chat ... Chit Chat ... Chit Chat



Show me the way to go home! Well, Brisbane's FIFA referee Bill Monteverde is in no two minds as he dismisses Heidelberg's George Slifkas for an alleged head butt on Parramatta Melita's Hugo Gimenez. For what it is worth, it seems that Melita striker Geoff Gunning (right, in white) was prepared to concur with the referee's decision. Photo: STEPHEN GOSCH.

More than one club will have their eyes peeled for the two emerging Joeys strikers, Alex Kiratzoglou and Nasilios Kalegoragos, both of whom have excelled as expected on the South American tour. The former turns out for the South Melbourne youth team, and the latter is across from Perth at the Australian Institute of Sport.

St George is negotiating hard for a long term sponsorship with a major Australian company. Success will ensure that the present apprenticeship scheme will prove to be a far greater benefit still. And, with coach Frank Arok and general manager Tony Balazsi on the job, there are more improvements still in the pipeline.

Wollongong Macedonia short circuited

an appeal in Melbourne by paying out a request for \$3,500 from his former club, Melbourne City JUST for the services of young striker, Sasha Becvinski. He is settling in at Wollongong, and looking forward to representing Australia in World Youth Cup matches against New Zealand and Israel.

Tasmanian Soccer Federation general manager Gordon Jablonski has recently been in the news over the Rothmans sponsorship offer down in the Apple Isle. He hasn't been that long in Tasmania. Players and officials in the Sydney Amateur League might recollect him as one of their former referees.

Robbie Slater's mum has returned from a four-week stay with her son in France. She

reports that Robbie now speaks good French and is a firm favourite with fans at his Second Division side Lens. Not surprising, really, since Slater has been their best player since joining them and is very much in the running to win the Second Division Player of the Year Award. There is an excellent chance the Soccerroo will be snapped up by a First Division club next June.

The sudden appearance of midfield import Safet Katovic provided St George with a real chance to get their act together. Another former Rockdale player, he had to stand down for a year after the NSW Soccer Federation suspended him for playing for the former Sydney Lebanon club under an assumed name. Now he is the white

hope for a Saints' resurgence.

Wollongong City's Brandon Park was strangely bypassed by the NSL for last Wednesday's NSL Cup round 2 joust with Apia. The Leichhardt-based club has not completed its lighting installation at Lambert Park, whereas Brandon Park has outstanding TV standard floodlights. The game was set down for St George Stadium, leaving the Saints smiling as they benefit from the ground rental payment. The Wolves, incidentally, were shown first as team 'D' on the second round draw.

Juventus Brunswick coach Terry Hennessey, a Welsh international who has Australian citizenship, may be included in the panel of coaches to prepare the US national squad for the 1994 World Cup finals in America. Hennessey is very highly regarded there, having won a Coach of the Year award in the US in the early 80s.

Just a reminder for those calling for a "sin bin" in soccer. Rugby league certainly did not instigate sin bins. They have been part and parcel of ice hockey since the game was invented in Canada some 130 years ago.

Former St George and Canberra Croatia striker George Kulcsar is the latest Australian to break into Belgian soccer. The 23-year-old made his debut for First Division Antwerp

last Saturday week.

Former Soccerroo Peter Ollerton is seeking a pardon from his 10-year suspension to continue with his coaching career. Ollerton was banned after striking referee Jim Fearn while playing for Doveton against Sandringham in August 1988.

Congratulations to ABC-TV specialist soccer commentator John Kosmina on his on the spot feature piece on Newcastle's progress towards NSL membership. Included was the full support of Newcastle Lord Major, John MacNaughton. All the new embankments could be seen, and the adjoining land being procured to provide an additional 500 car parking spaces. Austral United's president, Con Mitsios, has quietly and firmly helped to build up the Club for over 20 years.



JOHN KOSMINA

however, have slumped to fourth last in the Dutch league. Gary van Egmond is again a regular starter for Roda after losing his spot after his trip to Australia to get married.

Former Blacktown and Canterbury stars Ricky Hormazabal and Carlos Ortega have been constant compan-

ions of the Australian team currently in Chile. The Chilean duo along with Eduardo Pena spent from 1977 till 1984 with Blacktown and then a season with Canterbury (1985) before returning to Chile. The trio send their best regards to all their Australian friends. Ricky is on crutches at the moment, damaging his right archilles tendon at work.



ROBBIE SLATER: parlez-vous français?



Bright starlet Steve Corica in his Australian Institute of Sport outfit. He has also been in the Marconi Fairfield first team squad this year.



SOUTH AUSTRALIAN SOCCER SCENE

WITH ALAN CLARK



Ambitious clubs see great value in State League win

AMBITIOUS SA clubs chasing the State's second NSL spot in the revamped 14-team set-up in 1992 face a cut-throat, upcoming State League.

Adelaide City, which never has been relegated from the NSL, looks a certainty to gain one SA sport.

But just who fills the second will be decided by the Australian Soccer Federation board under a set of criteria to be outlined.

"The detailed criteria will be known by February so State League clubs will know

just what they are playing for," said current ASF commissioner and SA Soccer Federation vice-chairman, Basil Scarsella.

"The criteria, as recommended in the Bradley Report, will include next season's results, past results, financial, youth development and administration set-up.

"What weight each section holds will be determined by February."

But winning the State League season will be a plus and that could help provide a stirring competition in SA.

AMPOL Cup holder Croatia will be without skipper Ivica Jurkovic for next season's opening tournament.

Jurkovic is to have surgery on a troublesome groin injury and will be out of action for at least six weeks.

Striker George Konstandopoulos also is out. His leg is in plaster after a recurrence of a foot injury.

ADELAIDE CITY held its sponsors presentation night at the Italian Club last week.

Individual players were told which companies would support them and the respective sponsor received a framed picture of the player.

FRANK Nurse is the new chairman of Para Hills. He has taken over from Mike Lucovich who resigned to take up the position as chairman of the First Division Management Committee.

Andre Wilson has returned as Para

secretary.

The club should be boosted next season with the inclusion of Terry Kent who was near neighbor Modbury's Player of the Year last season.

IRISH club Ballyclare has applied for an international clearance for former Salisbury skipper Gary Higgins.

The big, Irish-born defender went back to the Emerald Isle earlier this year and again looks to have settled there.

LOOK out for a big year from blossoming Birkalla Eagles keeper Fraser McLean.

The youngster, who has been serving his 'apprenticeship' for several seasons at Camden looks sure to get the first team nod next season.

McLean has been in tip top form for Adelaide Scotland, highlighted with a five-star performance in a trial against Croatia.

Mind you, it was a

day for keepers. Croatia custodians Peter Cindric and Peter Blazincic also were in fabulous form.

BEOGRAD is having a close look at Alex Badounes, of Port, Lion's John Hudoba and Azzurri goalkeeper Alex Papp-Horvath for next season.

But Player of the Year, Mike Donnelly is considering his playing future.

Meanwhile, a couple of clubs have shown interest in Birkalla Eagles wantaway midfielder Paul Higgins.

FORMER Cumberland United utility player Grant Sweeney has been appointed coach of financially troubled Noarlunga United.

He takes over from Rab Jones who left the club over a disagreement on policy.

BEOGRAD Player of the Year Mike Donnelly is in no dispute with the club.

"We have not even discussed any terms for

next year yet," said Donnelly, who had a boom last season. "So there is no question of any dispute."

The industrious midfielder plans gradually to ease back into pre-season training.

Import Kevin McCormack, who was brought from England last year by relegated Cumberland, reportedly has joined Andy Papp-Horvath, Alex Badounas and John Hudoba as players under review by Beograd.

CITY's successful NSL Youth League coach Rocky Aloisi has been confirmed as State League boss for the next two seasons.

His appointment will ensure uniformity and continuity in the coaching of City's blossoming youngsters.

"I am delighted with the appointment and promise to do my best for the boys and the club as always," said Aloisi, whose career at City always has been tinged with success.



R. Preston (left), formerly with Adelaide Hellas, in a battle for possession for Beograd earlier this year. Hellas won 3-1. At right is P. Rankin of Adelaide Hellas. Photo by JANUSZ KAMMA.

Charlie Caruso moves up another big rung

ADELAIDE City president Charlie Caruso is the new chairman of the SA Soccer Federation board.

He was elected last week.

Dual, or triple, roles seem to be in vogue in SA soccer administration.

Former Campbelltown man Basil Scarsella is vice-chairman of both the SA and Australian Soccer Federations.

Caruso is NSL vice-president, SASF chairman and Adelaide City president.

Former president Michael Aronis is still a Hellas board member but vice-chairman of Port Adelaide.

Second Division chairman Arthur Di Fede is chairman of Campbelltown and SASF board man Orazio Di Cario is treasurer at the Newton club.

There is plenty executive power in just a few hands!

Caruso may find it appropriate to shed one of his hats — perhaps a full office role at club level.

The independent board of the SA Soccer Federation now reads:

Messrs Caruso, Scarsella, Orazio Di Cario, Joe De Pinto,



Di Fede, Jack Innes, Ian Gossland, Mike Moralee, Alex Cichanowski and Mike Lucovich.

No-one yet has been appointed to fill the vacancy caused by Julia Mourant's resignation.

AZZURRI players for the new season began training last week with an aerobics and aquatics evening at Barton Fitness Centre.

The club has mapped out a six week schedule of preparation for the new season. It will include beach and park work along with gym work, swimming, spa and sauna.

Azzurri will train three times a week. Team manager Karl Drosd said the club had retained 95 per cent of the players from last year.

Former State midfielder Paul Higgins looks a likely recruit.

★★★★



Dirty play? At least it is, according to the state of player No 9's uniform. His opponent seems to be taking one close to his Adam's apple. SA Foundation State League from Adelaide, captured by JANUSZ KAMMA.

SUBSCRIPTIONS

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ONE TOUCH, SPEED — THE WINNING FORMULA

BY GRAHAM COOKE



Australian Institute of Sport head coach Ron Smith (left) chats with Northern Ireland team manager Billy Bingham (centre) and Mohammed Wafa Samy, the former national goalkeeper for Qatar, now the national coach.

CRITICS of the modern game have got it wrong — and statistics prove it.

A study and analysis of more than 100 mostly international matches indicates that teams committed to the slow, elegant build-up beloved of many old-timers score less frequently than those who put the emphasis on speed and playing the early ball.

The findings were presented to the Asian Football Confederation's coaching school in Kuala Lumpur, attended by Australian Institute of Sport head coach Ron Smith as an observer.

Smith said 212 goals were analysed.

"The main finding was that very few were scored from a situation where the attacking side had strung together more than five passes," he said.

"And it is the same the world over — the more passes you make, the less likely you are to get the ball into the net."

On the other hand 80 per cent of goals scored in the survey involved no more than one pass — including those initiated from corners, free kicks and other set plays.

Some 25 per cent involved no passes at all, resulting from situations like direct free kicks or defenders being dispossessed.

While it may be all cut-and-thrust in front of goal, there is still a role for the ball player further down the pitch.

Teams with midfielders who can dribble past opponents scored more often than those who lacked them — 20 per cent of the goals studied involved a player taking on and beating an opponent.

And it seems that the era of the Bobby Charlton-style 35-metre drive is almost

gone. Only 11 of the surveyed goals were scored from outside the penalty area.

Finally, 25 per cent resulted from headers.

The English study was put on to video tape and presented at the Kuala Lumpur school under the title of "The Winning Formula".

The matches used involved Argentina, Brazil, Italy, West Germany, Liverpool and the English senior, under 21 and under 16 sides.

And a summary of the winning formula?

"Play the ball past your opponents quickly, stay compact as a team and, as far as

technique goes, practice heading, dribbling and one-touch finishing in the penalty area," Smiths aid.

"While what I learnt at the school confirmed many of the things we are doing at the AIS, there were some eye-openers and I intend to adjust the training emphasis accordingly."

The course was run by Northern Ireland manager and 56-cap international Billy Bingham and Dettmar Cramer, a FIFA instructor and one-time manager of Bayern Munich.

It was attended by coaches of 20 Asian countries from Syria to Indonesia.

QUEENSLAND

Toombul runaway leaders

TOOMBUL is bolting away from the field at the top of the Queensland State Futsal League.

Seven straight wins have seen them gallop away from Logan (1) on 10 points, with Bayside

9, and Pine Rivers, Chandler and Toowoomba on 8.

The league is remarkably well spread, with Brisbane well represented, along with Toowoomba and Gold Coast, and right up as far as Rockhampton.

QUEENSLAND FUTSAL ASSN

State League Points Table

	P	W	D	L	F	A	P
Toombul	7	7	0	0	80	26	17
Logan (1)	5	4	0	1	34	31	10
Bayside	7	4	0	3	37	35	9
Pine Rivers	4	3	0	1	29	12	8
Chandler	7	3	0	4	43	44	8
Toowoomba	8	3	1	4	61	68	8
Rockhampton	5	2	0	3	32	23	4
Gold Coast	6	1	2	3	34	42	4
Runaway Bay	7	1	1	5	44	71	3
Logan (2)	7	1	0	6	18	59	3

RESULTS: Bayside 7 Toowoomba 4, Toombul 10 Chandler 0, Runaway Bay 3 Toombul 13, Bayside 4 Pine Rivers 2, Gold Coast 8 Chandler 3, Rockhampton 1 Logan (1) 3, Rockhampton 12 Logan (2) 0, Runaway Bay 2 Toowoomba 13.

Farewell, Monaro

BY GRAHAM COOKE

THEY laid Inter Monaro to rest in much the same way as they had played their football — with a smile on their faces.

Many of the players and officials who had seen the doomed Queanbeyan club through its last, painful season of football gathered at a Canberra venue recently for their own version of a presentation night.

Utility player Luche Djordjieski received the Rothmans Private Bin/Rascals Appearances Award for the player most often seen at these nightspots on the day before a game.

Also, the Breville Hairdryer Award for doubling Monaro's electricity bill in search of the perfect post-match hairstyle (John

Paul Dunda) and the Graham Cooke Love Child Award for being mentioned more times in The Canberra Times than Mal Meninga or Ned Zelic (Baz Giampaolo).

There were others, but the laws of libel forbid me to reproduce them.

Good humour in the face of adversity has been a feature of Monaro's players over the past five years and, while it was probably the best way of coping with a relentless chapter of disaster, it is an indictment on the Australian game that a former leading club can fall away so quickly and so completely.

The only thing left of Monaro now is memories.

And there are many good ones: Giampaolo

ripping through a Canterbury defence in a 12-0 win; Marko Perinovic almost single-handedly bringing the team back from a potentially humiliating loss to a 5-3 triumph over Rockdale Ilinden; and the exploits of Tony Brennan, which have become part of the ACT soccer folklore.

The last word should go to the joker in the pack at the Marco Polo Ground — a final flash of defiance at the old enemy, Canberra Croatia.

"So we weren't getting paid, attendances were low, our club folded and we came second last," Brennan said.

"Things could have been worse. Croatia could have come first!"

Steve Bryant joins Tuggeranong United

BY GRAHAM COOKE



Tuggeranong United's new coach, Steve Bryant, signs his two-year contract with the ACT first-division club watched by president Graham Plath (left) and fund-raising and promotions manager Bob Smoothie.

FORMER Canberra City National League defender Steve Bryant will coach Tuggeranong United next season.

Bryant signed a two-year contract with the ACT first division side and at the same time said he had "more or less decided" to retire from playing.

"I will be registered with Tuggeranong, but I will use myself only as a last resort," he said.

"Last season's experience with Inter Monaro was not a happy one, and I'm not really satisfied about ending in this way (he still has one match of a three-match suspension to serve) but on reflection it's the best thing to do."

Bryant, who had a short period in charge of Canberra City as

caretaker coach before moving on to Belconnen United and Monaro, also had talks with Downer Olympic and Canberra Croatia.

He said he had decided on United because he believed it was "a club which has got its act together."

"In junior promotion, publicity and generally trying to lift the image of the game, it is going places," he said.

"I would hope that most of last year's first team remains with the club, and I will be trying to persuade them to do so."

If he has his way, one of his first new signings will be former Monaro team-mate John Janke — "a tremendous amount of potential just waiting to be brought out."

Club president Graham Plath said the aim had been to sign a coach capable of de-

veloping players within the district.

"In Steve, we have that coach."

He said Tuggeranong would be involved in a number of off-field activities initiated by fund-raising and promotions manager Bob Smoothie.

"He has already negotiated an improved deal with last year's first-team sponsor, McNeill's Carpet Warehouse; Scuderia Veloce will back our women's team while the Kambah Tavern, which have supported us so well in the past, has indicated it will be upping its contribution."

"People like Ian Heywood, Jack Doherty and Ian Primrose have laid some sound foundations for the club in recent years."

Now it is time to build on those foundations."

Manly and North Shore in merger

BY PAUL GOODWIN

ARRANGEMENTS are moving ahead for the Manly North Shore NSW State League club, following their recent amalgamation.

For Manly it is a big step ahead — they have languished in Second Division for quite sometime.

The club has plenty of youth players who are capable of making their mark.

Unlike North Shore United, which has traditionally played in green and white, and Manly-Warringah, which has played in red, white and blue, the newly formed club will take the field in completely new colours when fully established.

In the meantime the former Manly-Warringah colours will be used at home games and the old Ku-ring-gai colours will be carried on the team's travels.

The team will play at the well appointed Cromer Park complex, for which there are exciting plans to introduce spectator comforts which will make the ground one of the best in the division.

Clubs from the two junior associations which have always backed the two senior clubs in the past, namely Manly-Warringah and Ku-ring-gai, will be invited to compete in a North Shore wide competition for under ten sides.

To be staged on home match days at Cromer Park, the games will be played during the intervals between State League fixtures and it is intended to have clubs from both associations engaged in competitions from day one, with a keen demand for nominations anticipated.

Naming rights for the new club are currently being negotiated, and sponsor interest has been enhanced by the increased reach of the North Shore wide State League operation.

The club will host a function prior to the commencement of the 1991 State League season.

It will be an important occasion, as sponsorship arrangements will be made public before an invited group of local and regional identities.

ADELAIDE CITY DOMINATES NAT YOUTH LEAGUE SOUTH

BY ROY HAY

ADELAIDE City has opened up a 5-point gap at the top of the National Youth League Southern Division after Round 9.

Michael Brooks and NYL top scorer Carlo Talladira gave Adelaide City a 2-0 win over South Melbourne Hellas Colts at the Hindmarsh Stadium, while closest rival Preston Makedonia was crashing at Middle Park.

South Melbourne Hellas swamped Preston Makedonia by 7 goals to 2 at Middle Park.

Peter Tittikakis and Michael Michalakopoulos each got a double for Hellas, and Con Boutsianis, defender Harris Micheil and Danny Wright added one apiece.

Peter Razmovski reduced the deficit in the 55th minute and Elvis Dimitrievski got one more back for Preston after 76 minutes, but it was Hellas's day.

Melbourne Croatia was too strong for a young Springvale City side running out eventual winners by five goals to two.

Benny Cacciotti put Springvale ahead but Croatia equalised, then took the lead, only for Giuseppe Gentile to level again for Springvale.

Croatia then powered away with three goals in the last fifteen minutes, as Mark Silic scored a quick-fire hat-trick.

Heidelberg United inflicted a rare defeat on Caulfield City by two goals to nil at Princess Park.

Stavros Mangos put Heidelberg into the lead after 31 minutes, and Nick Ousalkas made the points secure after 75 minutes.

Altona Gate recorded a 2-0 win over



Brighton at Paisley Reserve.

Henry Velkovski, the man of the match, scored first for Altona Gate and Robert Georgievski added a second, both goals being scored in the first half.

Brighton's stand-in keeper defied everything the Altona Gate forwards threw at him after that.

Melbourne Croatia Colts defeated Northcote City by three goals to one on an outside pitch at Somers Street.

Zdravko Golembiovski scored after only three minutes and Jani Suric and John Ivelja added another couple in the first twenty-one minutes.

Northcote came back in the second half, but only managed a single goal in reply through Chris Salpingidis.

Geelong City fought back from a 2-0 deficit to draw 2-2 with Sunshine George Cross at Stead Park.

Thunder and lightning accompanied the opening minutes of the game and Georgie went off to a two-nil lead through Paul Foster and Wayne Attard.

City came back when Cedo Rakic looped the ball over keeper Sean Keogh to give the home team a lifeline.

With two minutes to play Richie Black forced home a Peter Stojanovski corner kick for the qualiser.

SATURDAY night in Canberra provided soccer supporters with a National Youth League North goal feast when the Australian Institute of Sport teams handed out a 7-3 thrashing to Newcastle visitors Highfields Azzurri.

With both sides prepared to attack, the two goalies were kept busy and managed to keep clean sheets until the 33rd minute.

It was then that Highfields' Brad Van Etan headed his side into the lead, Ricky Bucci providing the lead-up work.

Any caution there may have been in the AIS ranks was soon forgotten as Ice Kutlesovski netted the equaliser with one of a stream of headers on the night.

He was quickest to a cross by Ante Milicic in the 44th minute and three minutes after the restart put his side 2-1 up when he hit the roof of the net following a quick breakaway movement.

New signing Zoran Bizimovski made it 3-1 a minute later, tucking home a low cross by Danny Stower at the far post and Stower helped Milicic head home another in the 56th with the same reliable service.

In the 63rd a corner from the right reached Mark Sorrentino whose header made it



St George's Jim Kakakios (13)

5-1 before the Novocastrians hit back.

Marc Oliver's 66th minute free kick sent AIS custodian Frank Juric the wrong way when the ball deflected off Kevin Muscat and within three minutes Brad Van-Etan had intercepted a back pass to score again.

In addition, Benny Tasevski had a goal ruled out for offside, but Murray Crivari and Ante Milicic wrapped it up with a goal apiece in the last five minutes and Muscat also had a goal disallowed as the AIS eventually won comfortably.

Highfields' 'keeper Lee Archer was in good form despite the scoreline and made AIS work hard for their goals.

Out at the Marconi Stadium a thunder storm arrived just as the players kicked off and heavy rain fell throughout, cutting the pitch up badly during Melita's 1-0 win over the home team.

Aldo Martincich was

BY PAUL GOODWIN

perb run by the first-season team.

The longer established St George side made hard work of their game against Wollongong Macedonia at Barton Park.

They missed a heap of chances, with Adam Poric the main culprit. Craig McGregor made the first impression when he was put through by Shaun Freestone who had picked up a loose ball on the 16 yard line.

Poric, who missed early opportunities, did figure in plenty of the action and after John Kakakios made the running in the 48th, it was Poric who drew the 'keeper and slipped the ball to Freestone for a simple tap in.

Finally Poric, whose many shots had hit the goalie and the posts, as well as going wide, benefited from another's misfortune in the last minute when Kakakios hit the post, Adam Poric ended his frustration by hitting the rebound into the empty net to make it 3-0.

Adamstown presented the strong Sydney Croatia outfit with two own goals, when under intense pressure and were on the wrong end of a 6-0 result at Budgewoi Oval on Sunday, after a wet morning in Newcastle.

LEADING SCORERS:
7 David Batten (Leich)
6 Adam Poric (SG)
5 John Kakakios, Darryl Ziederman (both SG),

Stephen Corica (AIS and Mar)
4 Adam Ciantar, Shaun Freestone (both SG), Pablo Cardoso (Oly), Dean Adamson (High), Peter Tsekenis (Syd Acad), Aldo Martincich (Melita), Ante Milicic (AIS).

National Youth League Northern Division Table as at 10.12.90

St George	9	7	1	1	30	14	15
AIS	8	6	2	0	21	9	14
Parra Melita	9	5	2	2	15	8	12
Syd Croatia	8	5	1	2	17	3	11
Sydney Oly	8	3	4	1	10	7	10
Wong City	9	4	2	3	11	11	10
Sydney Acad	8	4	1	3	17	9	9
Highfield Azz	9	3	2	4	17	23	8
Apia Leich	8	2	1	5	12	16	5
Marconi	8	2	0	6	9	17	4
Wong Mac	9	1	1	7	6	21	3
Adamstown	9	0	1	8	10	34	1

CONTINUED FROM
PAGE 1

on the board.

Dr Bradley's acceptance of a position, despite the demands of his other consultancy work, is a big plus for the game.

When the 1991/92 clubs become known later, there will be a great need for an overview of the operation of each club and the setting up of precise management mechanisms.

At this stage Brisbane and Newcastle both have some excellent proposals in place, to lay the ground for their permanent return to the National Soccer League.

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COACHES WANTED

Coaches are now wanted for our 5th Division Federation squads, playing in the NSW Soccer Federation competition.

Applicants to contact persons below, prior to December 19, 1990.

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or

MR JOHN KOYKLIDIS
☎ (02) 718 0651



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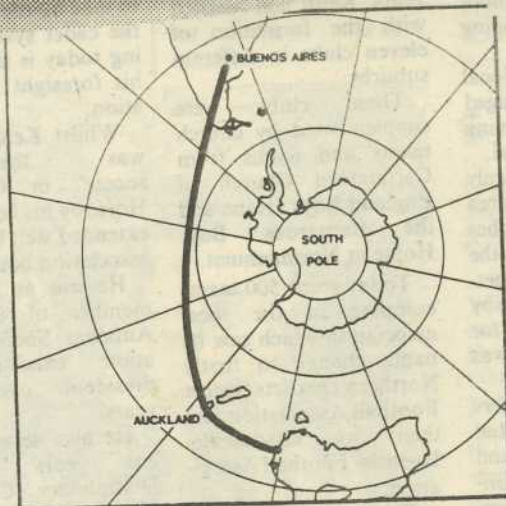
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Illawarra's Florence Stephenson nominated for top award



FLO STEPHENSON

IT comes as no surprise that Mrs Florence Stephenson has been recommended by the Illawarra District to receive a coveted Special Award from the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation.

For 20 years she has been closely involved with the organisation of the sport — at club, district association and NSW levels.

Her work is carried out with care and commitment. She did invaluable work for the NSW body at a vital time prior to the appointment of Cec Burcello as general manager as state secretary.

Here is a list of some of her attainments. Started as a club secretary for Bellambi, firstly with the juniors then the senior body. Delegate to IDASFA

(Jnrs) and to the ISA (Snr.).

Served as a management member of the IDASF, then senior vice president and president. Delegate to Sydney branch meetings, representative team convenor, liaison officer to the regional director of coaching.

ISA — served as a committee member, then points registrar.

Sydney Branch — vice president, president, delegate to NSWASF, secretary/treasurer of Illawarra Coaches Association.

NWASF — secretary, delegate to MJSC.

CANTERBURY MARRICKVILLE OLYMPIC SOCCER CLUB



YOUTH LEAGUE TRIALS

Monday December 10
Thursday December 13
Monday December 17
Thursday December 20
AT THE

TEMPE RESERVE, TEMPE

AT 5.30PM
EACH NIGHT

ALL PLAYERS WISHING TO TRIAL ARE MOST
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VIDEOS OF THE WEEK

25 YEARS OF MATCH OF THE DAY

Thrilling memories from the
Sensational
Soccer Series



KEVIN KEEGAN

IN 1964 the BBC launched a weekly football series called "Match of the Day".

Television viewers entered a new football world. No one could predict that the program would ultimately attract millions of viewers and run for a quarter of a century.

BBC Video now toasts this phenomenal success and celebrates its 25th Birthday with a series of three videos evoking memories and highlights from the 60s, 70s and 80s.

Part 1: The Sixties

It was the era of Best, Law and Charlton, of Bell, Lee and Summerbee, of the mercurial Jimmy Greaves, of Shankly's Liverpool, Catterick's Everton and Sir Alf Ramsey's England.

All the heroes of the 60s — including Hurst, Moore and Peters who, in 1966, helped bring the World Cup to the country where

football began — thrill us once again!

Running time 80 minutes. Available at \$29 each including postage.

Part 2: The Seventies

The game was now about big names and big clubs — Shankly, Paisley, Revie and Clough off the field, Liverpool, Leeds and Arsenal on it.

The flair men still existed — Keegan, Hudson, Currie, Bowles, Osgood Worthington and, of course, Best — filling the screens with skill and daring, replacing the innocence of the previous decade with a new brand of professionalism.

Running time 90 minutes. Available at \$29 each including postage. Orders including payments should be sent to:

NWASF Ltd
PO Box 84
Toongabbie NSW
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1991 — A big 'international' year at home for Australian women's soccer

NATIONAL women's soccer coach, Steve Darby, has announced his squad for the World Cup campaign which starts next month in Sydney with an historical series against Swedish Club, Malmo.

Malmo will be the first European women's team to visit Australia and they will provide the national team with three valuable 'tests' on January 27-29 and February 1 in Canberra.

This year, Malmo won the Swedish League, knock out Cup and Championship.

The Malmo series is timely given Australia's participation in a World Cup qualification tournament in Sydney during May.



STEVE DARBY

The tour will also give the Australian public an opportunity to see the national women's team at home for the first time since 1979.

Darby has main-

tained most of his 1990 squad for the '91 campaign.

Unfortunately, Victoria's Jane Oakley and Debbie Nichols could not be included due to injury.

It is expected that Julie Murray and Carol Vinson will add a great deal to Australia's attack following their return from the Danish League after a 10 month contract.

Newcomers to the squad include young Traci Bartlett and Katrina Boyd, previous international Janine Riddington, indoor Aussie representative Sharon Young (all from Sydney) and Queensland defender Kaylene Janssen.

The full squad is: Michelle Sawyers, Sharon Wass, Kaylene Janssen (Queensland), Linda Hughes, Alison



CAROL VINSON

NSW Amateur Federation Special Award

GLADESVILLE-Hornsby Football Association Inc wishes to put forth the nomination of Keith Gilmour for the "NSWASF Special Awards".

In 1953 Keith Gilmour in conjunction with his father the late Herb Gilmour decided to introduce soccer to school children in the Epping area.

They visited two local schools and encouraged youngsters to a training session at Epping Oval.

At the time, the only soccer played in the area was via the churches competition and later the old State League Competition in which Hornsby later participated and for whom Keith Gilmour was a player.

A bare eleven players turned up to the initial training session and within weeks the 'Gilmours' had arranged matches scattered throughout the Sydney Metropolitan area.

Later that year Herb and Keith used the local

press to organise other clubs within the area and formed the Hornsby Epping Soccer Football Association.

In 1954 there were only four clubs competing against each other. However this quickly changed given the enthusiasm of Keith Gilmour.

Within a few short years, Keith had assisted with the formation of eleven clubs in different suburbs.

These clubs were supplemented by church teams and teams from Carlingford Church of England Boys Home and the Barnardos Boys Home at Normanhurst.

Today some 500 teams compete in the local association which saw its name change to firstly Northern Districts Soccer Football Association and then to Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association.

Keith Gilmour was foundation Secretary of the Association and held that position until 1961.

In that year he was elected to Life membership of the Association.

It should not be forgotten that Keith Gilmour was also a qualified referee and with the assistance of Alan Foster formed the Hornsby Epping Soccer Referees' Association, which Gladesville-Hornsby is today one of the largest in the country.

He encouraged youth to take up the whistle and the cadet system operating today is the result of his foresight and inspiration.

Whilst Keith Gilmour was the "Father of soccer" in Gladesville-Hornsby his contribution extended well beyond the association boundaries.

He was an invaluable member of the NSW Amateur Soccer Association executive and president over many years.

He also served countless years on the Disciplinary Committee of the NSW Soccer Federation and is also a Life Member of the Amateur Federation.

In later years, Keith was better known for his journalism. He syndicated to the major press for



KEITH GILMOUR

many years and was a reporter for the Soccer World newspaper.

More recently he has served as Editor of the Australian Soccer Weekly.

Keith's contribution to the game of soccer would be hard to match.

His enthusiasm for the code has never waned and he has maintained a continuing interest in Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association.

He lives within the district at Pennant Hills and enjoys the admiration of all who know him.

Gladesville-Hornsby Football Association Incorporated

Forman (Northern NSW), Traci Bartlett, Katrina Boyd, Moya Dodd, Janine McPhee, Janine Riddington, Kim Schaefer, Anissa Tann, Carol Vinson, Tracey Wheeler, Sharon Young (NSW), Julie Murray, Angela Iannotta (ACT) and Sonia Gegenhuber (SA).

The first match on January 27 will kick off at St George Stadium prior to the Quit National League game between St George and Sydney Olympic.

Later in the year, Australia will host New Zealand and Papua New Guinea to determine which nation will represent Oceania in the 1st World Cup for women.

Each team will play the other twice with the winner securing tickets for the World Cup in China next November.

All qualification games will be played at Club Marconi in Boscley Park from May 19-25.

For further information: Heather Reid 06-2485834 bh.

New players deserve the best

BY KEITH GILMOUR

IT requires no emphasis to say that soccer's standard will improve right from the jump if juniors are coached by people who have some knowledge of the game rather than the opposite.

Today's table from NSW Director of Coaching David Lee relates the number of new coaches to new players throughout NSW.

Additionally trends can be seen from 1989 to 1990. Associations which are lagging could have a close look at their situations with a view to upgrading.

There is no doubt that soccer in Australia must have the numbers as well as the quality players.

There is no chance, for example, that the NSW Amateur Soccer Federation would abandon the reason for its existence, to provide sport for those keen enough to want to play the game.

It is then up to those at the elitist end of the game to get their act together to ensure progress in this area of the game as well.

A comparison in the numbers in NSW, Queensland despite its drop back, and the ACT tells the story of wide community interest.

There would be no trip to Chile and Argentina for the national under 17 Joeys team, were it not for the support of the NSW Amateurs and their huge junior ranks.

If they were not in place, then the state wide schools series for the Commonwealth Bank Cup, the Commonwealth Bank Shield and the bank's Bill Turner Cup would tend to wither also.

In other words, a drop back in numbers hardens the arteries of the game, given the Australian climate for soccer.

The limited nature of recruits to the game from the younger generations in some states merely highlights the success of soccer as a sport to be played in NSW, Queensland and the ACT.

Why is it that Sydney could fill the Sydney Football Stadium with 43,000 fans for the Australia-Israel World Cup match?

It wasn't done just with people who migrated to this country.

One of the substantial reasons for the National League to move to summer was to get the interest of youth to watch the game.

This is beginning to happen, and without disturbing soccer as a competitive winter as well as a recreational sport.

Should there be an attempt to reduce coaching for the masses, then it can be expected that organisations such as the NSW Amateurs will find a way to handle their own schemes.

And that could be expected to result in a deal of reduced support for the Joeys.

I believe it is no use people living in an ivory tower, and finding out the facts of life later on.

The matter is best handled expeditiously.

Laying a base for Australian soccer down the years involves bringing in as many as possible from the entire community.

It has taken over 75 years of working with juniors, school and amateur players in NSW to reach the present position.

The NSW Amateur Federation no doubt will have its input if there remains a query in the area of coaching support for the masses of juniors in the state — numbers it is dedicated to increase for the 1991 season.

Summary: Of Level 1 Coaches

DISTRICT	1989 NEW REGO	1989 LEVEL 1 COACHES	1990 NEW REGO	1990 LEVEL 1 COACHES
Bankstown	720	0	439	0
Blacktown	1083	15	914	14
Canterbury	530	15	593	0
Gladesville	1033	14	1029	29
Granville	627	9	524	51
Illawarra	716	24	345	95
Ku-ring-gai	1254	12	1090	44
MacArthur	952	33	981	57
Manly	1225	21	1181	11
Nepean	1496	54	1328	13
St George	564	0	582	0
South & East	480	0	330	16
Southern Dist	778	25	865	240
Sutherland	1335	120	1342	120
	12793	342	11543	690
Western NSW	1473	24	1358	46
Southern NSW	824	45	841	38
North Coast	1114	44	1231	52
Riverina	511	30	661	32
Central Coast	1138	0	1239	0
Metropolitan	12793	342	11543	690
Country	5060	143	5330	168
RATIO OF NEW COACHES TO NEW PLAYERS:				
— MET	1/37		1/16	
— COUNTRY	1/35		1/32	

Major shopping centres for state wide registration days

BY ROBERT WHEATLEY



The coaching team with students snapped at Moorefield Girls High School recently. District schools were covered by the NSW Amateurs in conjunction with Sydney Olympic NSL club. Left-to-right: Gary Phillips, Nick Plataniotis, Scott Ollerenshaw, Robbie Wheatley, plus students.

THE arrangements for the statewide promotion and registration day for associations throughout NSW in 1991 is in full swing.

There has been confirmation of major shopping centres in Sydney and Wollongong as the focus for activities in early February.

This promotional day aims to allow clubs to make people aware of their existence and to advertise themselves in a busy central venue where possible.

By taking the game to the public, clubs will be able to complement the work they have done in organising registration days at their local soccer parks before and after their associations' promotional day.

The following centres will host the clubs in an association area.

February 2: Westfield Miranda - Sutherland
Warringah Mall - Manly Warringah.

February 9: Bass Hill Plaza - Bankstown
Westfield Chatswood - Kuring-Gai
Macarthur Mall - Macarthur

Westfield Hurstville - St George. Westfield Parramatta - Granville.
Westfield Liverpool - Southern Districts.
Crown Central Centre - Illawarra.

Where promotions do not fall on February 9 there was a prior booking in that centre, sometimes up to six months in advance, indicating that gaining

The offer to provide copy for a promotional brochure which will contain local association details and information regarding an association promotion and registration day has really taken off.

Several Sydney associations have realised the potential of the initiative, and are going all out in an attempt to distribute



the brochures to as many new potential players as possible.

Eurobodalla Association on the Far South Coast cannot arrange a shopping centre promotion because of the enormous distances separating their six clubs.

However, this has not deterred them from running their registration day on Feb. 9 and ordering 2500 brochures for their local use.

How's that for far sighted planning!!

Future developments will tie together all the promotional angles that have been previously mentioned to ensure a positive beginning to the 1991 season.



One of the girl students at Moorefields Girls High School shows consummate ball skills. Eat your heart out Gary Phillips!! (also pictured)

Milan's Toyota Cup

BY MARIO ETCHART

AC Milan made history by winning the Toyota Cup for the second consecutive year after a 3-0 victory over South American champion, Olimpia.

After a very even first 45 minutes, the Italians completely outclassed the South Americans in the second half, playing some brilliant soccer, with the three Dutchmen — Frank Rijkaard, Ruud Gullit and Marco van Basten — having a prominent role in their

win. Olimpia had little answer to the more disciplined, better organised and more skilful European champions.

Two goals from Frank Rijkaard, in the 43rd and 65th minutes, and the other from Stroppa in the 61st, sealed the scoreline in favour of Milan.

Best performers for Milan were Rijkaard, van Basten, Gullit and Baresi, with young Monzon the best for Olimpia.



Jean-Paul de Marigny (white shirt), who joined the Socceroos for the trip to South Korea, and Australian women's team star Anissa Tann (centre, at rear) in a recent workout with a contingent of schoolboys in Sydney.

Brilliant Copa America set for Chile in 1991

BY MARIO ETCHART

The 1991 edition of the Copa America will be held in Chile from July 6-21.

The major competition will involve ten South American nations divided into two groups.

Group A will involve Argentina, host nation Chile, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela while in group B are title holders Brazil, Uruguay — both finalists last time — Colombia, Ecuador and Bolivia.

Group B will be based in Santiago with some matches played at the southern city of Concepcion, Vina del Mar, with others in the nearby city of Valparaiso.

The opening game will involve two teams of group A, Chile v Venezuela at the Estadio Nacional of Santiago and on the following day, in the same venue, Paraguay will face Peru, with World Cup runner-up Argentina having the bye.

On the same day, in Vina del Mar, Uruguay entertains Bolivia while Colombia meets Ecuador, with title holder Brazil having the bye.

The second round of qualifiers will be as follows — July 8 Chile v Peru, Argentina v Venezuela, and in group B, on July 9 Uruguay v Ecuador and Brazil v Bolivia.

The third round will include the following matches — July 10, Argentina v Chile, Paraguay v Venezuela. July 11 — Brazil v Uruguay and Colombia v Bolivia.

Fourth round — July 12, Argentina v Paraguay, and Peru v Venezuela. On July 13 in group B, Colombia v Brazil and Ecuador v Bolivia.

The last qualifying round in group A will involve Argentina v Peru and Chile v Paraguay in group A on July 14; while in group B, on July 15 Brazil play Ecuador and Uruguay take on Colombia.

The first two from each group will qualify for the final round robin, with the winner of each group playing the runner up from the other.

The competition will have a rest day on July 16, with the remaining matches played on July 17, 18 with the final on July 21.

Chilean coach, Arturo Salah, commented that the draw gives his squad an excellent chance of qualifying for the final round robin, although they will have strong



opposition from Argentina and Paraguay.

Constantin Leoz, president of the South American Football Federation stated: "When we awarded Chile the right to organise the Copa America, we were convinced that their Football Association was capable of putting together a great championship."

"A tournament

where 'fair play' will be the real winner.

"Chile proved to us their capability after the brilliant organisation of the 1962 World Cup held in their country, and beyond that there is the likelihood of improvement".

The South American Football Federation will celebrate its 75th anniversary in conjunction with the championship.

Saul Riverero's team keeps hopes alive

BY MARIO ETCHART

Bella Vista took a step further in its quest for its first Uruguayan Soccer Championship after a surprise 2-1 victory over Menotti's Peñarol with eight games to go.



SAUL RIVERO

Nacional, coached by ex-Wollongong City midfielder Saul Riverero, also won 3-1 over defending champion, Progreso and kept its hopes alive.

With eight rounds to go Nacional is three points behind the leader.

Other results were: Defensor 4 Huracan 0, River Plate 2 Central 0, Wanderers 2 Cerro 0, Danubio 1 Rentistas 0, Racing 2 Liverpool 1.

Bella Vista leads with 29 points from Nacional 26, Danubio third on 23, Central and Racing tied for fourth on 22, Liverpool, Peñarol and Defensor together on 21 points with Rentistas last on 17.

The first five will qualify for the pre-Libertadores League.

In Chile, Colo Colo maintained its advantage over Universidad Católica after beating Cobresal 1-0.

Católica defeated Deportes Iquique 2-0 away, and Union Espanola defeated Cobresal 3-2.

Other Results: Fernandez Vial 2 Huachipato 1, Universidad de Chile 1 O'Higgins 1, Palestino 2 Concepcion 1, Naval 2 Everton 0, Wanderers 1 Deportes la Serena 1.

The points table is as follows: Colo Colo 36, Universidad Católica 32, Union Espanola 29, Concepcion 27, O'Higgins 26, Palestino 26.

LEGACY
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Please send donations to your nearest Legacy office.

NSW development plan to aid women's soccer



THE NSW Amateur Soccer Association has placed its draft plan for the expansion of women's football before member branches and associations throughout the state.

A number of meetings were held with interested groups involved in women's soccer throughout the year.

Branches and associations have been asked to discuss the current outline, and provide their views to the Amateur Federation.

Final deliberations on the scheme will be made at the first state board meeting, to be held next February.

IMPLEMENTATION, PRIORITIES AT THE BASE LEVEL

1. Encourage each Association to endeavour to provide a competition for women players of all ages, where Associations are unable in the early stages to provide a viable competition (other Associations be approached to accommodate such competitions).
2. Ensure that all players (except WSL) are/become registered of a District (Amateur) Association, with cooperation among Associations to allow joint competitions where necessary to establish viability.
3. NSWASF Associations aim to establish a sub-committee of persons interested in promoting school soccer within their Association.
4. District Associations to actively promote women's soccer in conjunction with all other promotions.
5. Aim to increase the participation level so that access is given to all levels of competition currently being conducted by the NSWASF.
6. That Talent Identification Schemes be established via Talented Child in Sport Programs, representative fixtures, Academy squads, and schools.
7. To allow for selected elite players to participate in the Super Skills programs, Women's State League, State teams and National teams.
8. Each District Association to actively encourage persons from within their Association to become actively involved in coaching, refereeing and administration.
9. That Associations endeavour to increase the playing strength of teams in their area, to such an extent that either one club or the Associations will eventually compete in the WSL.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AIM

Further unification and co-ordination of the development of women's soccer in NSW.

OBJECTIVES

1. To develop, promote, foster and administer a viable, strong 10-team, two grade NSW Women's Soccer League.
2. To develop and foster strong state representative teams that are open to all players from all level of participants in the three age groups.
3. To have representation from women's teams in all age groups in all competitions currently conducted by the NSWASF.
4. To increase the awareness of and participation in women's soccer.
5. To encourage greater participation of women coaches, referees and administrators.
6. To actively encourage and support women's soccer at both the Primary School Sports Association and Combined High School levels.

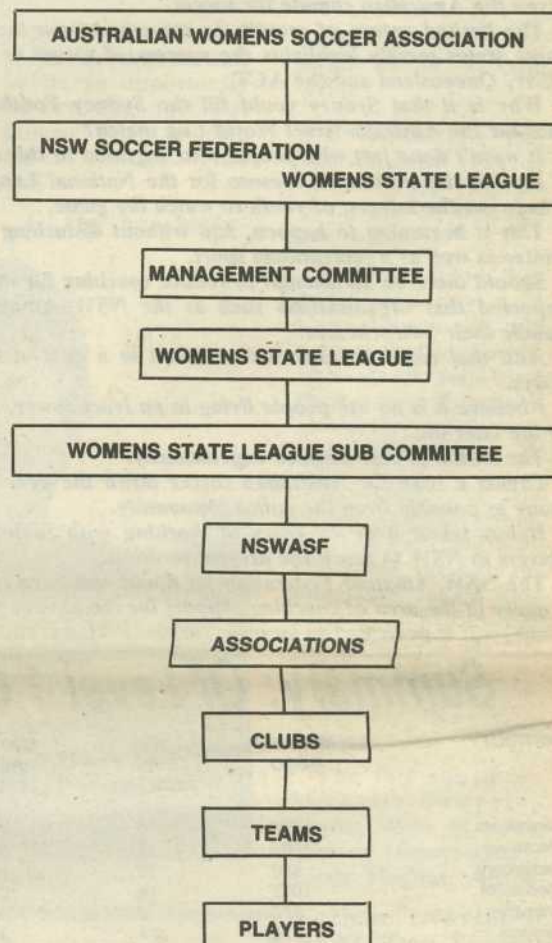
MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE ROLE

1. Co-ordinary and watching brief over the development of women's soccer in NSW, with particular regard to the NSW Women's Soccer League (WSL), implementation of the Development Plan at all levels, state teams' organisation, representation to Australian Women's Soccer Association.

MEMBERS OF MANAGEMENT COMMITTEE

Consist of three persons one each from NSWASF, NSWASF, from the Australian Women's Soccer Association.

DEVELOPMENT PLAN AFFILIATION PATH



David Lee praised for recent coaching course

Dear David,
I would like to congratulate you and your staff on the professional way the recent level two coaching course, which I participated in at Parklea, was conducted.

The patience and overall experience, shown in certain situations by instructors Richard Evans and Greg Ankudinoff, was well rewarded by the remarkable improvement of all candidates over the three weekends.

With the lack of qualified coaches here in Australia, compared to the enormous number of players, the knowledge obtained during the level two course is certainly

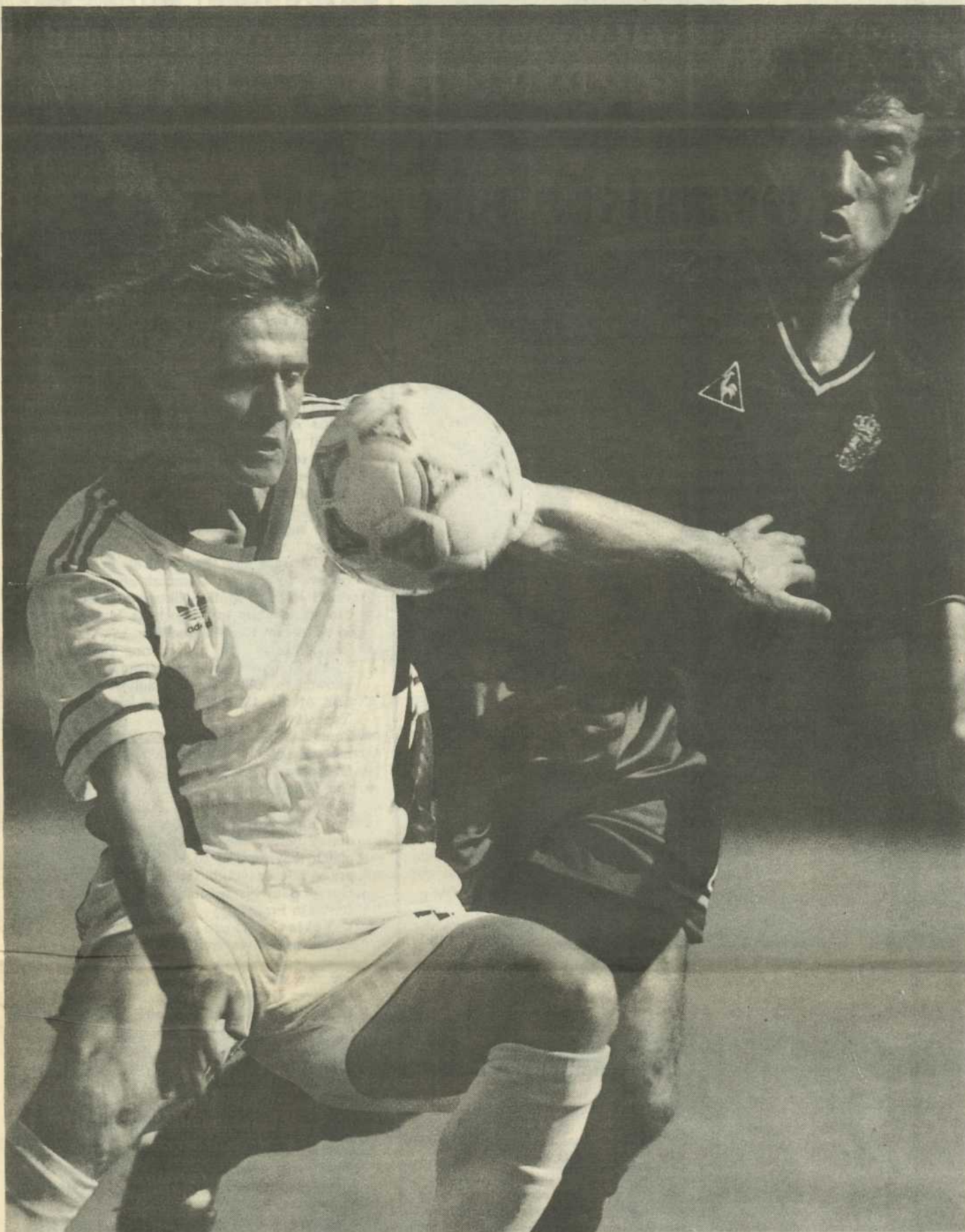
valuable and worthwhile.

I imagine that not all of the candidates passed their level two, but nobody failed, because their knowledge of the game's basic technique and overall outlook on coaching changed dramatically in just three weeks.

I am now looking forward to the challenge of the level three course in January 1991.

Once again, I congratulate David Lee, Richard Evans and Greg Ankudinoff for a job well done.

— BRUCE JAMES
[Bruce James is the former Marconi goalkeeper, who also had some national team experience.]



Toshack counter-attacks

JOHN Toshack, sacked as Real Madrid manager, has embarked on a war of words with club president Ramon Mendoza over who is to blame for the side's slump.

The pair are coming to blows in the columns of rival Spanish sports newspapers, with Mendoza opening the battle by accusing the Welshman of causing Madrid's problems.

The side, winners of the Spanish championship for the past six seasons, are currently well behind leaders Barcelona.

Toshack had been under pressure for several weeks with fans producing white handkerchiefs — the traditional call for a matador to produce a killing in a bullfight — during Real matches.

Now based at Zarou in the Basque country, Toshack replied in an interview with the "Marca" newspaper that the



MARTIN-VAZQUEZ

Real board was to blame because it let Martin Vazquez go to Italy.

He said that at the start of the season he had submitted a list of 12 players he was interested in.

None were signed.

Former Real star Alfredo Di Stefano, who has taken over from Toshack, now looks likely to remain in control till the end of the season.

Toshack, for his part, will return as coach to his old club, Real Sociedad, in February.

Real want Espanol coach Luis Aragones, but the Barcelona side will not release him.

Meanwhile, Hugo Sanchez, Real's and the Spanish league's top scorer, told the "El Pais" newspaper that Real's fall is due to boredom at having won too many titles.

Yugoslavia and Marseille's brilliant Dragan Stojkovic will be out of action until early February after knee surgery in Germany two weeks ago.

Pelé's son signs

EDINHO has agreed to professional terms with Santos, the Brazilian club where his famous father Pelé spent 17 years of his career.



Edinho, a goalkeeper, signed a contract two weeks ago.

The terms of the contract, which were agreed during a meeting between Pelé and Santos director Marcelo Teixeira, were not announced.

Edinho, 20, began training with the Santos juniors in October and last week made his debut for the club's junior team in a 2-1 defeat by Sao Paulo.

Santos's first-choice is Brazilian international Sergio.

First match for united Germany

GERMAN coach Berti Vogts has named five former East German players in his squad to face Switzerland in the first all-German soccer team to play an international since unification.

Vogts included Matthias Sammer, Thomas Doll, Ulf Kirsten and Andreas Thom, who all now play in the Bundesliga, in his 25-man party for the friendly in Stuttgart on December 19.

Carl Zeiss Jena goalkeeper Perry Braeutigam was the only former East German named from the Oberliga, the East German league which continues to the end of this season.

The game was hastily arranged after the scheduled gala match between East and West German select teams in Leipzig was called off because of a recent wave of hooliganism in the former Communist state.

Stuttgart, which staged matches in the 1988 European championship in the Neckarstadion, will witness the first appearance of a united German team for more than 48 years following last week's official merger of the two federations.

"We want to counter the hooligans by showing that we can celebrate a soccer festival, and we will do," German soccer federation spokesman Wolfgang Niersbach said.



Midfielders Dieter Eilts of Werder Bremen and Michael Zorc of Borussia Dortmund were the only other uncapped players in the squad, which included 14 of the victorious World Cup party and key Italian-based stars.

VfB Stuttgart midfielder Sammer, Hamburg forward Doll and Bayer Leverkusen striking pair Kirsten and Thom have shown superb form in the Bundesliga this season.

Their inclusion is sure to sharpen competition for places in Vogts' team, which seemed to lack bite as they struggled to beat Luxembourg last month in their opening European Championship group 5 qualifier.

Sammer, 23, has scored five goals in the league this season and is the front-runner for inclusion.

"Matthias Sammer has the best chance of all of them of making his debut," Vogts said.

Stop-gap Sealey

WEMBLEY hero Les Sealey is under no illusions about his role at Manchester United.

At the moment he's everybody's favourite at Old Trafford following his match-winning display in last season's FA Cup final replay.

But the man snapped up on a free transfer from Luton admits: "I'm realistic enough to know that I am only here as a stop-gap."

"I'm really enjoying myself at the moment because the fans are right behind me, but I know that if I throw one into the net they'll soon turn against me."

But Londoner Les is just making the most of his return to the big time after a miserable spell in Luton's reserve team following a bust-up with Hatters boss Ray Harford.

"Though it was six of one and half a dozen of the other, it was my own fault that I didn't play much last season. In the end I was glad to leave Luton — and they were glad to get rid of me!" says the keeper.

"This time last year I was playing in front of about 200 people against someone like Oxford reserves. Now



millions will be watching me against Chelsea.

"It's unbelievable the way things have turned round in the last year. The game has been really good to me."

"And with all due respect to Luton, there is no comparison with United. Football is so important to the Manchester United fans — it's like a religion to them."

"What they want to see more than anything is winners — and that's what we're trying to give them."

— courtesy SHOOT magazine

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Lazio's West German striker Karl-Heinz Riedle streaks away from his bedraggled Cagliari opponent in the Italian league.

Maradona confirms he'll quit Naples

DIEGO Maradona, in a weekly column carrying his byline, has re-affirmed that he wants to leave Italy at the end of the current season to join an Argentine team.

"I want to transfer to Argentina, otherwise I might quit soccer," the Napoli forward said in the article written for the local daily newspaper "Roma".

The Argentine player denied that he has been negotiating his transfer to Olympique Marseille in France or to a Japanese team.

"Japan can be a longer term possibility

"In Italy I have been treated badly, more than in any other country.

"I am tired and I want to leave.

"I want to negotiate an agreement with Napoli's president Corrado Ferlaino and leave Naples.

"Neapolitan fans can't hope I will stay here through 1993," Maradona wrote.

The 30-year-old Maradona, the world's

highest-paid player, has received offers up to \$25 million from foreign clubs should he succeed in breaking his contract.

In the column Maradona also claimed there was nothing secret about his recent trip to Germany.

"I did not meet with Marseille president Bernard Tapie. I went there to buy a car," Maradona wrote.

Maradona, who helped Napoli to win two Italian league titles and an UEFA Cup since his transfer to Naples in 1984, has been in and out of the team this season following injuries and unexplained absences.

The team has been eliminated from the European Champions' Cup and is lagging in the bottom places of



DIEGO MARADONA

the league standings.

Meanwhile, the local tax police disclosed this week they were investigating the fiscal situation of the player's commercial company based in Liechtenstein.

The company, Diarma, deals with commercial contracts of Maradona and manages his profits.

The player gets about \$2.5 million a year from his contract with Napoli but makes much more than that from commercial sponsors, including German-based Puma and some Japanese companies.

Maradona was also quoted as saying he rejected a multi-million dollar transfer offer by an unnamed Italian club last month.

"I said 'no'," he told a television interviewer.

"I want peace and quiet. I thank the particular club for their offer but I don't want offers from Italian or any other clubs."

The Argentine midfielder was appearing on the private Telemondo Carlo station which released a transcript of the interview.

Around the globe

Compiled by LOU GAUTIER



- Joaquin Soria Terrazas, one of FIFA's vice-presidents, has died after heart surgery at the age of 78.
- CSKA Sofia coach Asparuch Nikodimov has suspended three of his players for six months for "unprofessional conduct." The sinning Bulgarians are Georgiev, Ivanov and Vitanov.
- Romario says he doesn't want to play for Brazil any more after only getting a few minutes of playing time at Italia '90. He says he will concentrate on his Dutch side, PSV, until his contract runs out at the end of 1993.
- Spanish First Division club Cadiz have appointed a new coach — Hector Bambino Veira, an Argentinian without major credentials.
- Stephane Chapuisat, Lausanne's 21-year-old Swiss international striker, has been inundated with offers from foreign clubs. He is likely to sign for a French club next season, but England's Nottingham Forest are also very interested.
- German Bundesliga club Bayer Uerdingen have signed Dinamo Zagreb star Zvonimir Boban for next season.
- Jan Bartram and the Laudrup brothers have refused to play for Denmark after a fight with coach Richard Moller-Nielsen before and after Denmark's loss to Yugoslavia in Copenhagen in the recent Euro-92 qualifier.
- Darko Pancev, the high-scoring central striker of the Yugoslav national team, will only be allowed to join a foreign club at the completion of the 1991/92 season, has decreed the Yugoslav FA.
- Romanian World Cup coach Emerich Jenei is now manager of Hungarian First Division club Debrecen.
- The management of Polish club Lech Poznan have denied sensational Polish press reports that their players had been "drugged" while dining before the European Champions' Cup match they lost 6-1 to Marseille. In an official press release, club vice-president Wojciech Gorski said his team had been perfectly received in France.
- Yugoslav veteran Safet Susic, 35, has announced he was quitting the national team to make room for younger players. Susic, who was the star in his final appearance — a 2-0 win over Denmark in Copenhagen in a Euro-92 qualifier — will continue playing for his French club Paris St-Germain.
- Kubi Turkyilmaz, the Swiss international striker of Turkish origin, has joined Italian First Division side Bologna where he will play alongside Hungarian ace Lajos Detari.
- Dynamo Tbilisi and Zhalgiris Vilnius have agreed to return to the Soviet First Division next season after withdrawing this year amid controversy over political breakaway moves in their respective republics of Georgia and Lithuania.
- Costa Rica's Luis Gabelo Conejo, voted Italia '90's best goalkeeper by a number of observers, has been dropped by Spanish Second Division club Albacete after conceding seven goals in his first seven games for them.

OLEG'S OFF TO AMERICA

RANGERS have sent Oleg Kuznetsov to the United States in a bid to cure the knee injury which has ruled the Soviet international out for the rest of the season.

Kuznetsov, injured in only his second game for Rangers at St Johnstone, has gone to the same Californian clinic attended by long-term Ibrox casualty Ian Durrant.

The medical bill came to a cool \$50,000 but as Graeme Souness says: "When you pay \$2.8 million for a player, what's another \$50,000?"

Scottish Spaniard

SPANISH World Cup star Victor has become the latest foreigner in Scottish football.

St Mirren have signed the former Barcelona star, who had been without a club since leaving Sampdoria in the summer, for the rest of the season.

The 33-year-old midfielder had been put in touch with ambitious Love Street boss Tony Fitzpatrick by his former Barcelona mate Steve Archibald, who has also just signed for Saints.

No transfer fee was involved.

FIFA gives Americans a vote of confidence

BY DAVID FINCH*

FIFA have given a vote of confidence to the US Soccer Federation as host of the next World Cup, as the two sides signed a marketing agreement that formally began the preparations for the 1994 tournament.

FIFA president Joao Havelange told a press conference he was confident the World Cup would be a spectacular success even though it was being staged in a country where soccer is not a major sport and which still lacks a top-quality national professional league.

"The USA is the only major country left which soccer has not yet managed to take by storm," he said.

"We all know that with some 15 million mainly young footballers, the USA has enormous potential in soccer talent."

Havelange said he had full confidence



SCOTT LE TELLIER

32 communities had submitted bids to stage World Cup games, and that next year the process would begin to select between eight and 12 sites.

About 20 of the stadiums have seating for

more than 70,000 spectators.

He also said agreement had been reached for the European Broadcasting Union to provide the main television feed of the matches, and that

about 40 games would be shown live in the United States either on a major network or on cable.

The agreement signed by ISL Marketing, the marketing arm of FIFA, and World Cup USA, the equivalent body for the USSF, established a joint venture called World Cup '94 Marketing.

ISL retains the rights to sign international sponsors, World Cup USA can sign eight sponsors of its own, and the joint venture will cover such areas as official products and services, equipment suppliers, national and international licensing, and sales of the official film, book and music.

Revenues from the joint venture will be divided equally between the two sides.

★ REUTERS



ALAN ROTHENBERG

that the World Cup would be a success because it was being guided by three key figures who made the 1984 Olympic soccer tournament a success — USSF president Alan Rothenberg, World Cup Organising Committee Chief Executive Chuck Cale, and president and chief operating officer Scott LeTellier.

"Working with these three personalities has provided us with a guarantee that the organisation of the World Cup competition is in very good hands," Havelange said.

Rothenberg said that hosting the World Cup would be crucial in the effort to transform soccer into a major sport in the United States.

"We intend to use the presence of the World Cup in this country as the turning-point, the break-out point for the development of soccer in this country," he said.

"We will use this as the catalyst to create a solid, permanent professional league in the United States..."

Cale dismissed concerns that the World Cup matches would be played in half-empty stadiums, pledging: "We're going to sell every seat for every one of those 52 games."

LeTellier said that



Action from the Euro-92 qualifier between France and Czechoslovakia in Paris won 1-0 by the French. Czech goalkeeper Jan Stejskal collects the ball after French striker Pascal Vahirua collapsed on the Parc des Princes turf.

"Blades" in peril

STRAIGHT-talking Sheffield United boss Dave Bassett has left his struggling side in no doubt about the fate which awaits them if 'they don't get their fingers out'.

For he's told his downcast squad: "If you carry on like this we will be relegated, I will get the sack and you will be Second Division players for the rest of your lives."

Four points from their first 12 games is hardly the sort of return the traditionally chirpy Cockney expected on his return to the First Division.

"Certain people don't seem to be relishing hard work and I won't accept that from any of my players," says the manager whose teams are renowned for their fighting spirit and togetherness.

But there seems to be little evidence of a united front at Bramall Lane at the moment as the threat of an instant return to Division Two looms ever larger.



DAVE BASSETT

"The players worked hard to get us where we are but now they are letting it pass them by," says Bassett. "If we are not careful our return to the top flight will just be a blurred memory."

"We have got to get our fingers out and start getting to grips with the situation we are in. It is no good moping around feeling sorry for ourselves. That will get us nowhere."

"The question the players have to ask themselves is: do they want to be First Division footballers or do they want to sink without trace?"

Bassett admits he's rarely, if ever, faced a tougher task in his managerial career but says definitely: "I have never given up on anything in my life and I don't intend to throw the towel in now."

"But I can't just wave a magic wand to make everything right. It's down to the players now. They have to prove to me they have the toughness to survive."

"I'm not talking about going round kicking people, but displaying the sort of mental toughness to get us out of the mess

we find ourselves in at the moment."

"I said to them recently 'if the Player of the Year vote was taken right now none of you would win it'. Nobody has played well enough."

"The players I have brought in have not performed as I expected and, similarly, the players who won us promotion haven't lived up to the standards they set last season."

Not even the arrival of midfield inspiration and new United skipper Vinnie Jones has been able to give the bewildered Blades the boost they need.

"We have a mountain to climb," confesses Bassett. "We have got to get our legs moving and battle to the bitter end."

Down he may be, but not downhearted and just to prove he hasn't lost his sense of humour, Bassett leaves us with this light-hearted quip.

When asked who he could bring to the club to arrest the slide towards Division Two, he replied: "Houdini! But he died under a pile of cement the other week. That's just how I feel."

— Courtesy of SHOOT

RUFER'S BIG FEE

GERMAN club Werder Bremen must pay Grasshoppers Zurich \$2.5 million for New Zealand striker Wynton Rufer, the European football union, UEFA, ruled last week.

Rufer, 27, initially joined Werder from the Swiss club on loan for a year but signed a permanent contract last July.

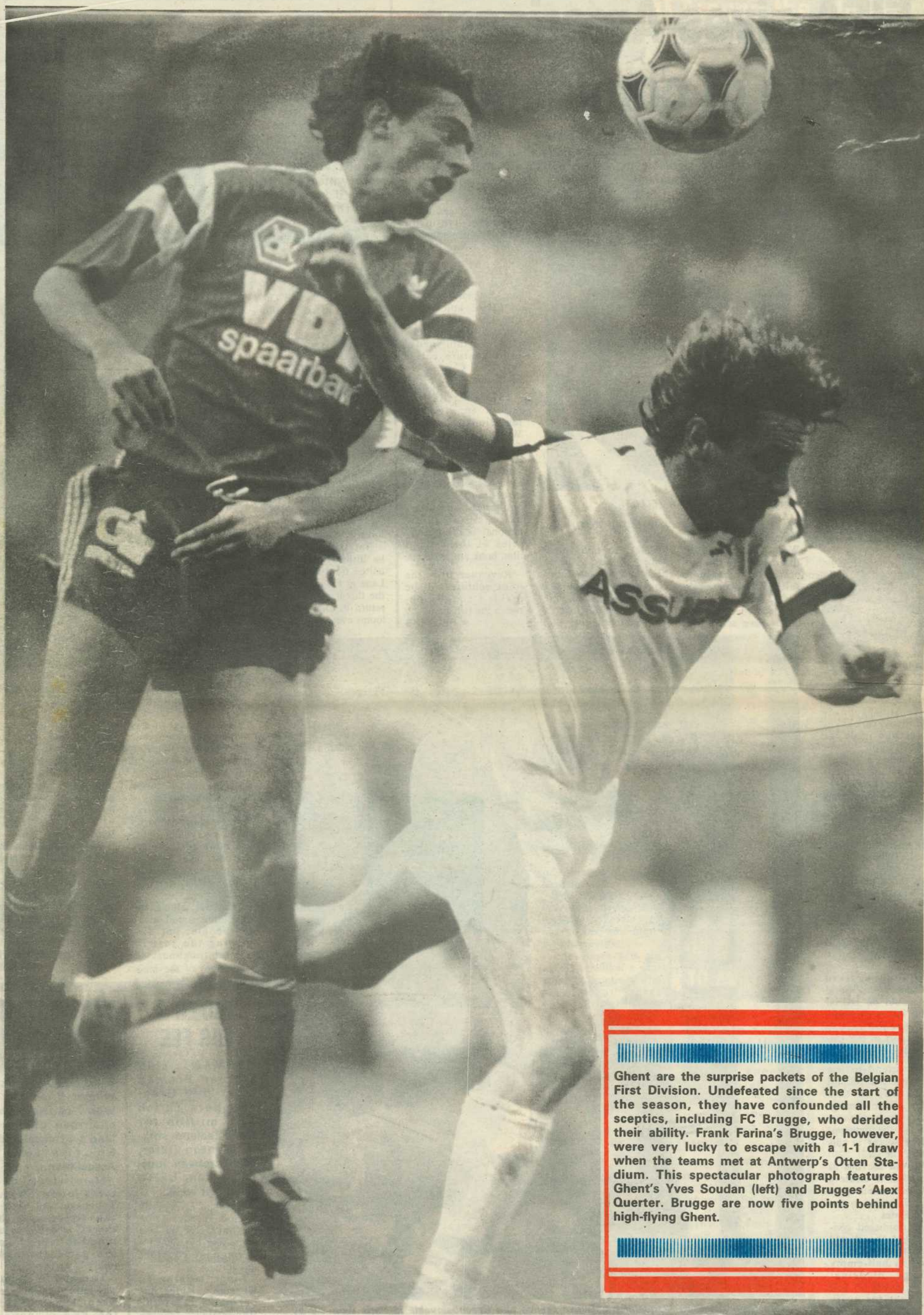
Since moving to Germany, Rufer has become one of the Bundesliga's leading forwards.

Players' chairman

SHEFFIELD United winger Brian Marwood is the new chairman of England's Professional Footballers' Association.

Marwood, 30, succeeds former Stoke, Tottenham and Charlton striker Garth Crooks, who has been forced to retire from the game through injury.

The appointment was ratified by players when they attended the PFA's annual meeting last week.



Ghent are the surprise packets of the Belgian First Division. Undefeated since the start of the season, they have confounded all the sceptics, including FC Brugge, who derided their ability. Frank Farina's Brugge, however, were very lucky to escape with a 1-1 draw when the teams met at Antwerp's Otten Stadium. This spectacular photograph features Ghent's Yves Soudan (left) and Brugges' Alex Quarter. Brugge are now five points behind high-flying Ghent.